



Miniature Enthusiasts of Edmonton Club



September, 2007 VOLUME 22 NUMBER 7 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. at McClure United Church, 13708-74 Street, Edmonton.

Workshops: Held every 1st and 2nd Tuesday of the month, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. There are no meetings or workshops during July, August, and December. Meeting only (no workshops) in January (assuming temperatures of over minus 25C)

Admission: \$2.00 Membership: \$20.00

Executive Contacts

In case you need to get in touch with one of your executive during the month, here is a handy list of phone numbers and email addresses.

Karen Jones	President	476-9001	minilady@shaw.ca
Linda Austin	Vice-President	962-0754	phlic1957@shaw.ca
Shannon Goy	Secretary	417-5799	tgoy@shaw.ca
Maureen Heuchert	Treasurer	418-5198	mheucher@shaw.ca
Luba Barnes	Workshops	962-4093	lubarnes@telusplanet.net
Linda Gautier	Membership	475-8932	eim10@telus.net
Maureen Moller	Director	481-6191	mail@lynnsclub.com
Evelyn Rech	Director	467-9339	kittylady@shaw.ca
Teena Krause	Director	641-2697	
Rosalie Pinske	Director	430-6285	rosecrochetminis@aol.com

And, although I am not a member of the Executive, if you need to get hold of me.....

Tina MacDonald	Newsletter/Website	487-8943	tina@camacdonald.com
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Upcoming Club Activities

Birthday Celebration: Our 25th Gala Birthday Celebration is on September 22nd, 2007, Join us at the Banquet at the Executive Royal Inn, 10010 - 178 Street, Edmonton, Alberta. Cocktails are at 6:00 p.m. and dinner, with entertainment, is at 7:00 p.m.. Tickets for the Birthday Bash are still available until the September 18 meeting, so get yours NOW!!!! Displays for the show and sale should be brought to Inn on September 22nd between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. or from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on September 23rd.

Annual Show and Sale: Our annual Show and Sale is on September 23rd, 2007, also at the Executive Royal Inn, 10010 - 178 Street. Early sales start at 9:00 a.m., and the show opens to the public from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Workshops: The next workshops are October 2nd and October 9th, 2007. Topics will be identified at the September 18th meeting..

General Meeting: The next general meeting will be held on October 16th, 2007.

Printable of the Month – Sun-Catchers

To brighten up your contemporary windows, here is a selection of “stained glass” sun-catchers. Cut each sun-catcher out carefully. Cut a 6 inch length of thread in black or a coordinating colour (use clear fishing line if you want the hanger to disappear). Double the thread and thread both ends through the eye of a fairly fine needle, leaving a loop at the other end. Push the needle through the top of the sun-catcher, as close as possible to the inside of the black edge, without breaking through the edge. Insert the needle through the loop in the thread. Pull tight and knot off at the appropriate length. Trim ends above the knot and hang in your window. This is particularly effective if your roombox is lit from the outside of the windows.

Trash to Treasure from a 3 ½” Computer Disk

By Maureen Heuchert



My latest computer doesn't take 3 ½” disks so I had a pile of them around. What a treasure trove inside!

To begin, take off the “brushed chrome” or black piece that's across the top of the disk. These are generally a lightweight metal which could be used to make maybe the holder part of a magazine rack or a mail box. The Maxell ones are a nice black plastic which could be cut into tiles.

Next, pull the disk apart at the top where you removed the first piece. Be careful that you don't lose the tiny metal spring (lower left). I plan on using this for the needle in the playing arm of a record player. There is also a small black plastic piece (lower right) that would make a lovely little soap dish. To me, it also looks like a high chair tray in 1:48.

Remove the round metal piece from the black plastic. As is, you can make a polymer clay pizza in it. Or line the bottom with a piece of decorative paper to make a vanity tray.

You can cut 1” circles out of the black plastic to make LP records.

On the inside of the outer case pieces are the two white semi-circles. These are a wonderful weight and texture to make j-cloths or kitchen towels.

One of the outside pieces has a circular piece with a raised edge in the centre. Cut around this (cuttable with scissors) and you've have a nice little tray. You may want to sand around the cut edge a bit.

Making Vinyl L-P Records

By Maureen Heuchert

Vinyl sheet from inside computer disk (see above article on Trash to Treasure from a Computer Disk)

1” paper punch (if you have one)

Scissors

¼” paper punch

Paper (colour of choice)

Tacky glue

Toothpick

Straight pin

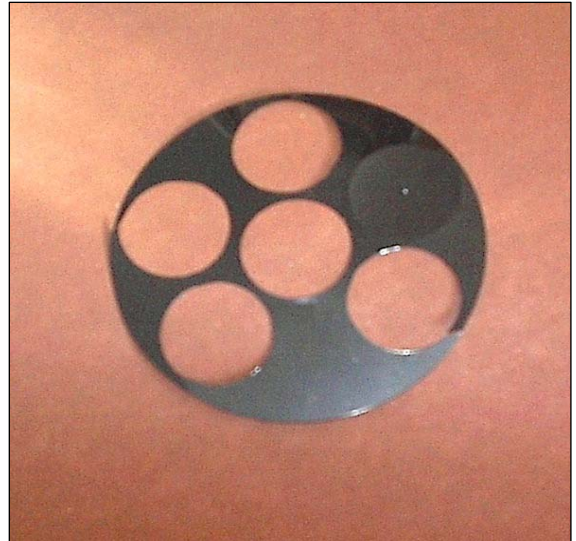
Remove the vinyl sheet from the computer disk.

If you have a 1" paper punch or a Fiskar's shape cutter, cut six 1" circles from the vinyl. Since I have neither, I scribed the circles with this:

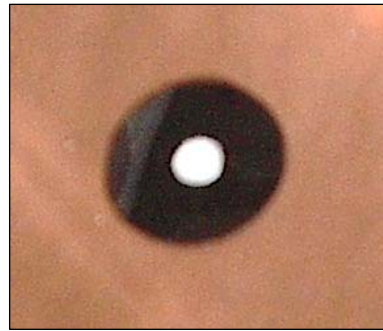


This actually works very well as it leaves you with a hole in the exact centre of the record which will be handy later. The drawback is that because the vinyl is so shiny, your cutting line is hard to see. Joanne R. suggested I try rubbing a white powder such as cornstarch over the piece to define the cutting line but the scribed line isn't deep enough to hold it. I also tried a light coat of white paint wiped off immediately and that did outline the cutting line pretty well but I don't know if it was really worth the hassle.

For your labels, punch out a pile of 1/4" circles in your choice of colour. Spread the 1/4" circles out on a piece of balsa or foamcore – anything with a bit of give to it. Take your straight pin and push the point through the centre of one of the 1/4" circles. Move it up on the pin then add your vinyl (this is where the centre hole is handy). Move that up on the pin then add a second 1/4" circle. Leave about 1/4" between each piece. Using your toothpick, apply glue to each of the 1/4" pieces on the sides closest to the vinyl.



Push the pieces together and remove from the straight pin. Make as many as you need.



This great link has record album covers (front and back) of all kinds.

http://tralfaz-archives.com/coverart/cover_art_list.html

Muttart Conservatory

NEW Dollhouse Extravaganza – Show and Workshop \$25

Dollhouses have been popular toys, showpieces and collectors' items for many, many years. Join us today to see some creative and original dollhouses, and develop your own ideas for this fascinating hobby. Just in time for Christmas...

COURSE #	START DATE(S)	TIME
#259961	Sat., Dec. 1	12 noon – 3 p.m.

Stuck on Miniatures

By Jill Nemirow-Nelson (reprinted from Nutshell News, January 1993)

Any miniaturist who has re-sanded, re-painted, or reassembled anything knows that the only route to perfection is repetition. Early in my quest to perfect this craft, I was told that success could be mine if I stuck to my work. Little did I know that these well-meaning enthusiasts meant that literally.

Having Crazy-Glued myself to yet another table, I began to wonder if there was some mystery to using the stuff that binds miniaturists to one another. I've yet to find the one glue that won't plan an unscheduled and untimely mutiny right in the middle of a one-inch scale project. It seems that every time I become engrossed in one project or another, I end up with my appendages tacked to my creations.

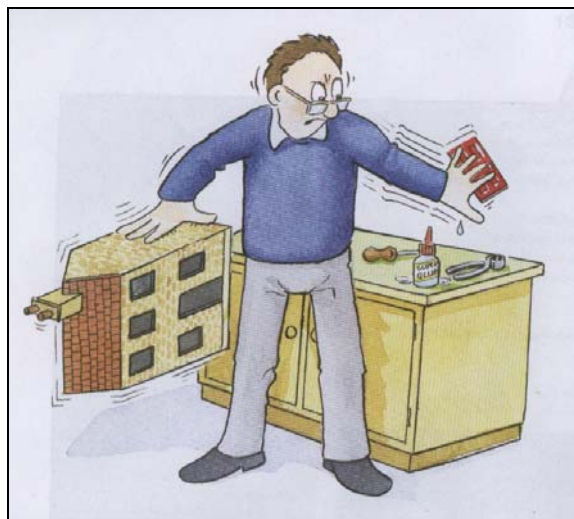
Wood glues were my favourite for building houses. The great bond that created couldn't even be hacked apart by my trusty X-Acto knife when I screwed up for the millionth time. But somewhere between cracking open a new bottle and trying to squeeze out the last sticky drop, those darn "glue hairs" began appearing and getting stuck on everything in sight. You know the things I mean — the angel hair-fine lines of glue that drift between your bottle, what you are gluing and everything in between.

Recently I threw away my barometer because I discovered that my bottle of Tacky Glue was better at forecasting the weather. If rain was due, my trusty bottle of white glue would bubble up at the top, oozing over, and over, and over, onto my work while I attended to other chores. It was kind of like "Mt. St. Aleene's!"

Fabric glues are really my favourite; I collect them. I have one that's good for hems, one that's good for pleats, and one that's good for nothing. My pal Jeanette (who makes curtains with pleats so tough that you can whack them with a hammer), cajoled me into buying this new miracle glue. Despite my squeezing, whining and pleading, it wouldn't come out of its tube. Finally, one rainy day, it made like a volcano and erupted all over some one-of-a-kind silk. I refuse to throw it away. It now sits on my workbench, a testament to my aggravation. And it makes a darn good paperweight, too.

Gap-filling instant glues made a big hit with my entire miniatures club. I was enamoured of the stuff that filled holes everywhere. Unfortunately, it also bonded me to a porcelain doll that left a permanent imprint on my hand. I like to tell everyone that it is some sort of religious stigma.

Despite the other marvels that modern miniaturists have found, glue is still the only thing that runs through my veins. I just need some advice on how to remove a small potted plant from my elbow.....



Happy Birthday to M.E.E!

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.