



Miniature Enthusiasts of Edmonton Club



January, 2008 VOLUME 23 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. 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
Wendy McCarvell	Treasurer	644-9628	wmccarvell@shaw.com
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

Workshops: The next workshops are February 5th and February 12th, 2008. Topics will be identified at the January meeting.

General Meeting: The next general meeting will be held on February 19th, 2008.

GATHERING!!! – the Spruce Grove Miniaturists are planning a Gathering for May 29, 30 and 31st, 2009. Get this on your calendar now and start planning your displays – the theme is Bedtime Stories.

Minis On-Line

- <http://www.mnsociety.org.uk/> - The Miniature Needlework Society was founded in 1997 to encourage all forms of miniature work with needle and thread: embroidery of every kind, knitting, crochet, tatting, lace making etc. The Society now has over 500 members worldwide who keep in touch through newsletters and workshops. Members share their expertise, and the Society publishes information packs on needlework techniques and sourcing materials.
- <http://www.maplestreet.co.uk/> - Designed as a place to bring the whole family, Maple Street is the LARGEST dolls house and Miniature shop in Europe (possibly the world!). You can download a 164 page catalogue for on-line ordering.
- <http://www.kdesignsdolls.co.uk/> - Kate Pinsent makes 1/24 scale character dolls in historical costume.
- <http://www.cdhm.org/user/browneyedgirl> or <http://home.cogeco.ca/~minicrochet/miniaturecrochet/> - this web page showcases some of Lydia Murphy 's miniature crochet items for dolls and dollhouses.

Printable of the Month - Groceries

Attached are a few more groceries for your pantry shelf.

For the grocery boxes:

1. Cut out the box, clipping down to the edge of the box, leaving four flaps on the top and bottom of the box.
2. Fold all four flaps on the top of the box toward the unprinted side of the paper. Repeat with flaps on the bottom. Unfold and straighten out the flaps.
3. Make folds vertically to define the edges of the box. Apply glue sparingly to the vertical flap to join the box together. Let dry
4. Starting with the bottom of the box, apply glue to the first three unprinted flaps, and fasten together. Fold over the bottom of the box, and tamp down from the open end to ensure that the box stands upright. Repeat with the top flaps.

For the cans:

1. Cut out the can label. Wrap around various sizes of dowels until a snug fit is found, with the edges of the label overlapping slightly.
2. Cut a length of dowel that is slightly longer than the height of the label. Sand both ends ensuring that the can sits absolutely flat.
3. Paint each end of the dowel with silver acrylic paint. Let dry thoroughly.
4. Glue label to finished "can".

Halogen Floor Lamp (non-electrified)

By Maureen Heuchert

Supplies:

1 bamboo skewer
1 ¼" suction cup
1 1" black bevelled faucet washer
3" black electrical tape
Black paint
Round toothpick or very small dowel
Gold paint

Remove the metal clip from the suction cup. Depending on the base of the suction cup you may want to trim it a bit to a narrower diameter.

Cut your skewer to 5 ½". Wrap the electrical tape around one end of the skewer. Place the wrapped end in the hole in the bevelled washer. (You want the bevelled side up and the flat side to sit on the "floor".) You want a very snug fit – if it's too tight with 3" of tape, cut off some of the tape ¼" at a time – no more – it doesn't take much to make that crucial difference.

Fit the suction cup concave side up to the other end of the skewer.

Paint the end of your toothpick or dowel gold. (The first joint of the turned round toothpicks is perfect for this.) When dry, snip off the end 1/16" and glue it to your lamp pole for the switch.

Completion time: 10 – 15 minutes

You can find the suction cups and bevelled washers at most \$ stores. Failing that, the washers are available in the plumbing department at the hardware store.



Afghan Quilt from Daisy Trim

By Maureen Heuchert

The credit for seeing the afghan in that daisy trim must go to a lady named Doris Brogdon from Anaheim CA who sent the tip in to Workshop Wisdom and had it published in the April 93 Nutshell News. Quite honestly, I would not have thought of it on my own and I'm so glad that she shared her vision.



If you don't knit or crochet, here's a neat idea for a simple afghan or bedspread. Find a trim such as the daisies below. I found these 1/2" daisies at WalMart for \$2.24 a metre. My finished bedspread is 7" x 6 1/4" and took almost exactly **2.5 metres** of trim to make. I attached them by stitching the 2 side petals to the 2 side petals in the next row. I lined up all my rows and stitched across the rows, hiding my thread in the underside of each flower.

WalMart also had the trim with 1" daisies and Carolyn suggested they would be good for matching cushions but I had been so excited to see the smaller daisies, I didn't even think to buy a bit of the 1" to use as she suggested. I'll have to go back. WalMart also had the trim with even smaller white daisies with white centres (about 3/8") which would make a lovely little coverlet for a crib.



Sewing the trim together was very time-consuming so it was time to try glue. Of course I don't know what the long term durability will be in gluing these together rather than sewing but if it's being used to permanently dress a bed or in any other situation where it wouldn't be handled much, I wouldn't think there would be a problem. I taped a strip of adhesive tape sticky side up to a sheet of wax paper. I used a medical adhesive tape because I had it handy. You don't want it too sticky. I think I'd probably suggest using masking tape that you've stuck on a piece of fabric then removed. This should pick up just enough lint from the fabric that it's sticky enough to hold the trim in place but not so sticky that it won't pull off easily later. Line up your first row of trim wrong side up along the edge of the tape, keeping it as straight and even as possible. Using a toothpick, put a drop of tacky glue on the outer edge of each of the two free petals on each daisy all down one side of your row of trim.

Then take your second row of trim (again wrong side up) and butt the edges of the free petals on each daisy against the ones with the glue. When they're all butted end to end, go back and put another tiny dab of glue on each join.

Just keep adding rows of trim until your afghan/bedspread is complete. When the glue is completely dry, pull off the tape and your work is done. When you remove the tape, one or two joins may come undone. Just reglue and let dry. Even as little as half an hour after the glue had dried, I tugged gently on the joins and they held.

It looks good and it goes VERY quickly compared to sewing them. It doesn't drape quite as well perhaps as a sewn one, but you can get around that by putting your glued seams on the rows that will run parallel with the head of your bed so the natural drape of the trim will be what hangs over the edge of the bed.

Whimsies & Whynots, a Playful Approach to Quiltmaking

by Mary Lou Weidman (originally about Quilting, adapted by Tina MacDonald)

"Before we talk about creativity, I want to take a moment to talk about someone I call the Collector.

The Collector has the best dollhouse; the best assortment of rulers, wallpaper, moulding and gadgets; and of course, the most miniatures. Tons and tons of miniatures. And she loves shopping for more. A new gimmick? She must have one or two immediately. She hasn't ever finished a project, although she takes lots of classes as well as workshops with the shining stars of the miniature world. Her cupboards are stuffed full of unfinished kits, half-completed roomboxes, supplies for constructing any conceivable object and hundreds of miniatures, all carefully labelled and arranged.

The Collector spends so much time shopping and planning because it's safer. When she buys those beautiful miniatures, the dealers "Ooh" and "Ahh" over her wonderful choices. Compliments over might-have-been roomboxes and the latest brilliant idea, this is good enough for the collector. If she were to start using those tools and making settings for her miniatures, people might not approve of what she did with them. Better and safer to collect.

The Collector is a great person to have for a friend because she has a good heart, as well as every book, magazine, and class handout known to the miniature world. She loves miniatures, miniaturists and recipes too. She is a pleaser.

Our friend, the Collector suffers from fear and lack of self confidence. Deep down, she longs for someone to say, "Hey, it's OK, I will love what you do because you did it and I love you! Finish some of those great things and see how good it makes you feel."

If this is you, I have something to say. Once people see your finished projects, they'll be supportive and excited for you. All it takes is a little commitment, working one project as a time. And it will make you feel good. Have courage. We all love the accoutrements of the miniature hobby, but they don't do any good if they are not used. And you know using them gives you an excuse to buy more."



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.