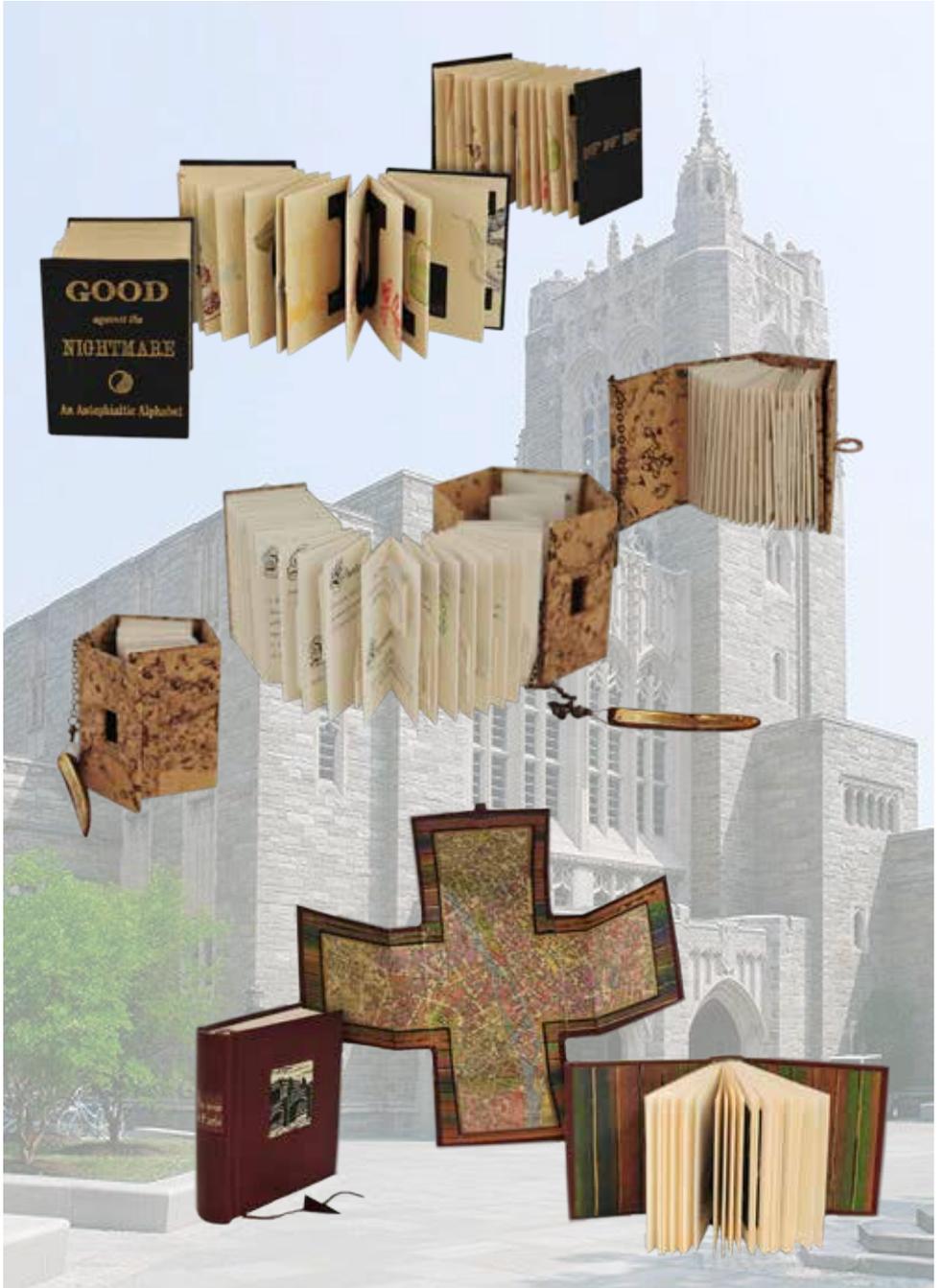


MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY

NO. 82 - NOVEMBER 2009

NEWSLETTER

INCORPORATING THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS



Conclave X.

1. Jeanne Garbett, Coleman & Caroline McGehee



Conclave XI.

2. Frank Anderson, Vladimir Markov, Bob Massmann & Donn Sanford at Donn's house



Conclave XII.

3. Missy Crahan, Doris & Jerry Selmer Jeanette Anderson, Msgr.Weber, Frank Anderson



Conclave XIII.

4. A-1 Bookbinding



Conclave XIV.

5. Grace Broecker, Art & Margaret Keir, Val Poska and David Reichert at Jane Baird's house in Sausalito



6. Conclave chairs: Maryline Poole Adams, Dianne Weiss, Carol Cunningham, Susan Acker



7. Glen & Mary Helen Dawson & Caroline Lindemann



8. Gayle Roberts-Cullen, Loretta Gentile, Evron Collins, Father Joseph Curran



Conclave XV.

9. Jane Conneen, chair
10. Jane's studio in Bethlehem, PA



Conclave XVI.

11. Hope & Carol Bowie, Marnie Flook, Regis Graden, Bruce Ogilvie, Julian Edison, Donna Graden



Conclave XVII.

12. City tour in Koblenz
13. Margaret Albert



President's Message



Mark Palkovic

The 27th Grand Conclave held at Princeton, New Jersey at the end of August was a grand success, and my thanks go to all involved, in particular our host Jim Brogan. Jim, his wife Elaine and his other family members pitched in to help make everything run smoothly. Elaine even painted the embellishments on the keepsake bookends featuring the Mercer Oak! Details of the conclave may be found elsewhere in this issue, but suffice it to say that all in attendance had their friendships and passion for miniature books rekindled!

The Awards Committee selected Joan Boring for the Anderson-Yarnell Award. Joan has graciously served as the compiler of the auction catalog and collected items for sale (a task currently done with aplomb by Janet Becker) and is the current editor of the MBS Newsletter. The Norman W. Forgue Award was given to Anne and David Bromer, longstanding MBS members who have made a considerable contribution to making miniature books more popular through talks, articles and Anne's book 4000 Years of Miniature Books (co-authored with Julian Edison). The 2009 Glasgow Cup was awarded to Angelika Jaeck. Angelika has been instrumental in maintaining our ties with European miniature book collector's clubs (in particular, the Freundeskreis Miniaturbuch Berlin), and, along with Stephen Byrne, manages the European MBS exhibit. Congratulations to these winners!

This year's miniature book publication was distributed at the conclave, Glen Dawson, An Autobiography. Glen turned 98 earlier this year, and recounts his years in the Sierra Club, as co-proprietor of Dawson's Book Shop, and his interest in miniature books. Glen submitted his manuscript via e-mail, proving that you're never too old to learn new skills! The book includes an introduction by his daughter, Karen Dawson Ganske. My thanks go to the Publications Committee and Glen and Karen for making this book possible.

We welcomed three new members to the MBS Board of Governors: Stephen Byrne as Vice President and Christina Amato and Karen E. Roehr as members at large. I want to express my gratitude to the outgoing board members Peter Thomas, Kimberly Molitor and Jill Timm. The MBS could not function without the hard work of all of them. Thank you!

2010 Miniature Book Competition

"It is not too early to begin thinking of the 2010 Competition. Entries will be accepted by Neale Albert between January 1 and April 1 of 2010. If you know of a book making group that might publicize the competition please be in touch with Neale."

Cover pictures

Front cover picture is the Harvey G. Firestone Memorial Library at Princeton University with the Competition winners: Good Against the Nightmare by Tara Bryan, Illustrated Architecture by Maria Victoria Garrido, and Un Jour à Paris by Okuyama. Pictures inside front and back covers accompany Caroline Lindemann's memories of Conclave's through the years.

Conclave XXVII: the Official Report Princeton, New Jersey

from Jim Brogan

Still applicable, with a dictum borrowed from the personal Conclave account by Msgr. Francis J. Weber, in the September 1988 issue of the *Microbibliophile*, “Join the MBS and see the world”. The Grand Conclave XXVII activities got underway with a ‘pre conclave’ gathering at the Witherspoon Grill in Princeton, many walked in but walking away from the dinner table was a difficult task, the food was outstanding.

Friday’s events started with the annual MBS Board meeting followed by registration for each of the Conclave participants who received a collection of keepsakes as well as a set of pewter miniature bookends. The buffet dinner was enjoyed by all, especially those that have a liking for chocolate desserts. The evening activities included the display of the 2009 ‘Book Exhibition Competition’ entries as well as the presentation of the winning competition by Neale Albert. Thank you Neale.

The annual membership meeting got underway bright and early Saturday morning immediately after breakfast. The MBS board has decided to replace the existing Traveling US Exhibit as it is very heavy, costly to ship, and has proven difficult to maintain the mounting of the little tomes. The proposed new exhibit designed by the Etherington Conservation Company is pyramidal in shape and significantly easier and less expensive to ship. Joan Knoertzer is heading the committee charged with the ‘redesign.’ Thank you Joan. The second important event was the announcement by our President Mark Palkovic that the MBS has published a new miniature book for 2009, the autobiography, [Glen Dawson: an Autobiography](#). Glen was not able to attend this Conclave but the book is a testament to his life, “Dad has a lifetime of opening new worlds of adventure for those who enjoy miniature books,” Karen Dawson Ganske, quoted from the introduction of the book. The production quality of the book is just excellent, beautiful paper, printing, and binding, a job well done and an item to be cherished for years to come. Each Conclave attendee received a copy of the book, each new member joining in this year will also receive a copy. The annual meeting concluded with a DVD presentation provided by Caroline Lindemann highlighting the production techniques of Miniature Paintings by Mary Ann Brandt. Thank you Caroline, for sharing this unique experience with the Conclave attendees.

Saturday afternoon’s activities started with a ride in the big yellow school bus from the hotel to Princeton where members were able to get a quick lunch and maybe shop before our tours began. The tours visited three different locations within Princeton University: the Cotsen Children’s Library, Graphics Arts Department, & University Art Museum. The tours were held simultaneously so that the number of members in each group could be kept small and provide each member with an ‘up close’ presentation. Andrea Immel, the curator of the Cotsen Children’s Library, provided an insight into Victorian children’s theater including the processes behind the publication of printed media. Julie Mellby, of the Firestone Library graphics art Department, gathered each group around a table that was one utilized by Elmer Adler the ‘founder/curator’ of the Graphics Arts program at Princeton. The Elmer Adler Undergraduate Book Collecting Prize is awarded annually to the student(s) who have shown

the most thought and ingenuity in assembling a thematically coherent collection of books, manuscripts, or other material. Treasures and micro minutia filled the room and presentation. The tour groups at the Princeton Art Museum were provided by three docents who afforded each group a very personal tour of the facility.

Everyone was free to select their own venue for dinner before the next Conclave event, a Dessert Buffet just prior to the Silent Auction and the regular auction which was facilitated by Fr Joseph Curran who officially opened the bidding with the bang of his gavel. The combined auctions contributed \$1719.50 to the MBS treasury as many items changed hands. Thank you to everyone who contributed items to the auction, those that participated as lucky buyers, and most importantly to Fr. Joe, without whom the auction just would not be the auction.

Sunday morning’s first activity after breakfast was to allow the Book Fair vendors time to organize their many miniature offerings. There were fifteen different vendors at the Book Fair, the doors opened to our members at 9:00 AM and the general public at Noon. The Book Fair continued till 4:00 PM, all the while people shopped from table to table, looking for something new, something old, something red or something blue. Old acquaintances were renewed and new ones introduced; a fine time for everyone was had. The Awards Banquet followed the Book Fair with a multi-course meal to be remembered. Mark Palkovic announced the winners of the awards for 2009: The Anderson-Yarnell Award was presented to Joan Boring, the Norman W. Forgue Award was presented to Anne and David Bromer, and the Glasgow Cup was awarded to Angelika Jaeck. Congratulations to all our winners. Joan Knoertzer was our guest speaker. Who would have ever known all of the pies of the pie that Joan provided in a sensational speech. Absolutely well done Joan!

Thank You, to all of our members for the opportunity of being your Conclave host. As I said “join the MBS and see the world,” our next Conclave will be held in Lexington, Kentucky. Some consideration was discussed with maybe Dallas following Lexington, and then maybe Dublin. How many book shops are there in Dublin?

MBS Highlighted in “Antiques and Collecting Magazine”

Carrie P. Jones has a really good introduction to collecting miniature books in the September 2009 issue. It is called “Grab Your Bifocals” and is based on an interview with MBS President Mark Palkovic. Mark provided the photos from his own collection and from the Kalman L. Levitan Collection of Miniature Books at the University of Cincinnati Libraries.

The article also describes Edward Hoyenski’s “harrowing search” for a misplaced miniature—the library’s smallest— at his University of Texas Rare Books Collection.

Conclave 2009—Princeton, New Jersey The Editor's personal observations

Fewer attendees than usual, but that meant the opportunity to visit with more people and look more closely at dealer's offerings. The Wyndham Princeton Forrester Hotel & Conference Center earned its name—it was quite spread out, with lovely landscaping and prodigious amounts of food.

Miniature book competition

The highlight of Friday, Aug. 28, was the buffet dinner with the revelation of the Competition winners. Distinguished Award winners were: Tara Bryan of Walking Bird Press for Good Against the Nightmare, Maria Victoria Garrido for Illustrated Architecture, and Okuyama of L'Atelier du Lierre for Un Jour à Paris. That's Canada, Spain, and France. We are certainly becoming more international.



Joan Knoetzer and Karen Nyman



Competition Display

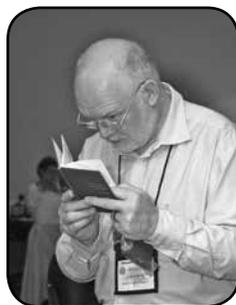
And the Catalog

The distribution of the Miniature Book Exhibition Catalog for 2009 also showed how much more sophisticated entries are becoming, as is the Catalog itself. The one-offs, or artists' books, made a nice addition. If you were not in attendance you will be receiving a copy of the Catalog in the mail along with your membership renewal form.

Maria Pisano

Stephen Byrne

Neale Albert and Maryline Poole Adams



Book Swap

The Book Swap after dinner allowed our youngest attendee, 12 year old Clara Orndorff, to get some advice from Angelika Jaeck.



Membership meeting

On Saturday, Aug. 29, the membership meeting was held in the Einstein Room. (Need I say, an obvious choice.)

Among the keepsakes we had received was an autobiography of 98 year old Glen Dawson from the MBS. <Karen Nyman has a small number of signed copies available for \$45. Contact her if you are interested in obtaining a copy.> They are also planning a biography of Ward Schori, as well as something from Miriam Irwin.

Mark Palkovic was reelected President; Stephen Byrne—Vice President; Edward Hoyenski—Secretary; Christina Amato and Karen E. Roehr added to Members at Large.

You will be receiving your first issue of FABS newsletter (of the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies) with our current Newsletter. They publish twice a year, so we will not be sending them out on the same schedule.

Joan Knoetzer is having Don Etherington, a conservator, redesign our traveling exhibit. It will be much smaller and lighter weight for shipping—able to go by UPS. The cases will include competition work and some historical pieces to show what has been done in the past. We need both input and donations, which can include blank books with an exceptional binding. The object is to create a pool of materials to draw from. We know from past experience that items can be damaged or destroyed, so we need replacements available.

We were informed by Edward Hoyenski that the University of North Texas Rare Book and Texana Collections project for digitizing our Newsletters is well underway. You can check these at [http://digital.library.unt.edu/browse/department/rarebooks/mnbc/MNBSN/Beginning with 1989](http://digital.library.unt.edu/browse/department/rarebooks/mnbc/MNBSN/Beginning%20with%201989), they are currently up to 2004. (If you don't want to type in the address, just google north texas miniature book society newsletter. That will take you directly to the

newsletters, then you can also check through their miniature book collection.

Cherry Williams is now the archivist at Lilly Library for MBS materials. Most materials are open access, although some are in storage and they will need 24 hours notice to retrieve them for you to study. You can email or call Cherry. Tel. 812-855-2452 Fax. 812-855-3143 chedwill@indiana.edu

Our 2010 Conclave will be on Labor Day weekend (Sept. 3-6) in Lexington, KY, with the possibility of seeing a letterpress shop and Neale Albert's exhibit.



WE DO NEED SOMEONE TO HOST FOR 2011!

Caroline Lindemann showed a DVD on miniature finger painting with the late artist Mary Ann Brandt, who was the subject of Caroline's miniature book *Miniature Finger Paintings*.

The Tours

We were then taken by bus to Princeton Village for lunch on our own, followed by tours of the Graphic Arts Department and of Cotsen's Children's Library in the Harvey G. Firestone Memorial Library, and of the art collection in the University Art Museum.



Father Curran demonstrates a peculiar stance for Bob Massmann, Caroline Lindemann, and Eloise Massmann while waiting for tour.



Julie Meliby in Graphic Arts treated us to several of their unusual Collections: full size bookplates with some celebrity owners, an intricately etched copper plate for George Cruikshank's Magazine (which lasted through two issues), Audubon prints and copper plates, a military map traveling printing case, Rockwell Kent's printing dingbats for Voltaire's *Candide* (a rather racy collection), and a candy wrapper collection acquired by a student in 1939.

Three staffers introduced us the wonderful Cotsen's, which collects well beyond children's books. They had early cases designed for miniature children's volumes, items like paper dolls from World War II, and lithography stones for printing figures and their stages for performances.



The art collection at the Museum ranged from ancient mosaics through Monet to a Louise Nevelson wall piece that was pointed out as apparently the only sculpture they had by a female.

Auctions

A dessert buffet preceded the Silent Auction and the Auction presided over by Father Curran. The food was terrific and we managed what we could before the auction.



David St. Onge



Mary Devenyi

Barbara Williamson ignores the food to check the auction offerings.

As usual, some unexpected moments occurred at the auction. Bookcases drew serious interest, since collectors always need a place for display—one went for \$60. A copy of *Tiny Tome* from Ash Ranch Press drew \$65. Best laugh of the evening went to the catalog description of *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (\$75) "on handmade paper, signed by the author"!



Prepping for the auction: Edward Hoyenski & Jan Becker

As always, the bidding sometimes got heated.



Muriel Underwood



Twyla Racz looks dubious



Memory Press—a local dealer

Bill Bivona checks Antik Huset offerings as Carol Kouyoumdjian sorts

Book Fair

The Book Fair was back in the Einstein Room, so there was no difficulty moving around or seeing what dealers had laid out.

Banquet

After the awards, guest speaker Joan Knoetzer managed to cover a remarkable part of her life story. She taught music and got into miniatures when she moved to a smaller house. A miniature Bible from her grandfather led her to an exhibit in Chicago, where Donn Sanford convinced her to join MBS.

Small memories stuck with her, like the thrill of encountering books from the Netherlands by the Catherine Press, or the boy who played his trumpet solo from a miniature book when his sheet music slid under the podium.

Joan currently operates The Library Bed & Breakfast (all rooms are themed to books) and, with Twyla Racz, hosted the Ann Arbor Conclave. (The Kerrytown book dealers caught on quickly—they now bring in as many miniatures as they can.) She wrote a Jeanne d'Arc which Randy Asplund turned into a wonderfully illuminated miniature.

It is a pity that Julian Edison could not make it to the Conclave. Joan had a delightful story about meeting him when she was a teenager working in the accounting department of his family's business. She thought he was wonderful, so polite and handsome and a Harvard man to boot. Unfortunately, when she was telling her mother about him, the woman, having grown up in Boston, warned her to stay away from Harvard men!

No doubt most our members would have to agree with Joan's Statement: "My last book is always my favorite."

Maybe we should echo Joan's last book remark in terms of our last Conclave. I've been to many conferences where people seemed harried and out of sorts; our people smile.



Amanda Molitor celebrated her 19th birthday at the Conclave.



Marian Byrne and Melinda Brown



Ann St. Onge



Jeanne Goessling

Pictures courtesy of Ray Williamson, Neale Albert, and Jan Becker

Bromer Gift to Boston Public Library

Anne and David Bromer have provided BPL with a generous grant that was used to fund a marvelous website called On the Edge: the Hidden Art of Fore-Edge Book Painting. The project began in late 2006 and has taken shape over the past few years with Anne "curating" contributions from people in various departments of the Library.

The site offers high resolution pictures of over 200 books (at <http://foreedge.bpl.org/>) that are housed in the Library's Rare Book Collection and provides the public with exposure to some of the many hidden treasure there. Other websites offer bits on fore-edge painting, pictures and videos, but none come close to the amount of information contained here.

You can browse the site by subject, book title, or painting title, or simply go through the Gallery. There is an option, Featured Works, that provides additional information on the selection, detail shots, and a video of the book as it is fanned to display the painting. A "zoom" feature allows you to examine sections of the painting in closeup.

If you are not all that familiar with fore-edge paintings, the site includes a short collection of articles that explain how they are done and their history, including an introductory text by Anne Bromer.

Miniature Book Society Conclaves through the Years

Caroline Y. Lindemann

Conclaves I - IX were covered in our July 2009 Newsletter. This continues my brief synopsis of past Conclaves.

X. 1992 San Diego, CA

133 people attended, almost a record I think. Our opening meeting included making an origami book. Enid Batham gave a fine talk on the history of bindings, including the information that in 1821 the Pickering Press in London produced the first permanent cloth binding, a miniature Cicero. Conclave highlights included seeing a fine exhibition of miniature books at the Wagenheim Room of San Diego State University, a delightful dinner cruise, and visiting the famous Coronado Hotel and the fabulous San Diego zoo. Following the Conclave many attended a barbeque at the San Fernando Mission in honor of President Bob Massmann and his wife Eloise.

XI. 1993 Chicago, IL

We celebrated our tenth anniversary in gala fashion over the Labor Day weekend. A special birthday cake in the form of stacked books (with a typo on the spine!) was shared by all. Dealers Anne Bromer, Glen Dawson and Jim Lorson discussed book values and Ruth Adomeit, Val Poska and Msgr. Weber addressed the critical issue of collection dispersal. We heard an interesting talk on the miniature books in the Chicago Public Library, and Gabrielle Fox Butler gave a demonstration of book care and repair. A true highlight was the luncheon at Donn Sanford's Ingleside home and the chance to see his wonderful collection.

XII. 1994 Ottawa, Canada

The Ottawa Book Club greeted us on our arrival at our second International Conclave. We enjoyed the tour of the beautiful capitol city, the Parliament Building, and our banquet at the National Arts Centre. Many of us woke one morning to find the skies filled with dozens of balloons rising, a beautiful sight. Our MBS book exhibition was held at the Ottawa Public Library, and an exhibition was held at the National Library of Canada by the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. We ended our visit with a Papertrail Happening, exploring the world of handmade paper at the city's own paper mill.

XIII. 1995 Pasadena, CA

A trip to Mariana Blau's A-1 Bookbinders in L.A. was a wonderful treat and included seeing the binders at work. Our visit to the Huntington Library in San Marino was a true highlight. We had lunch there and were given a special tour of the Francis J. Weber Miniature Book Collection of over 7000 miniature books now housed there. We had time to explore the library, art galleries and the botanical gardens. The last day we visited the San Fernando Mission including its Archival Center. That evening member Mel Kavin of Kater Krafts Bookbinders gave a most interesting report on his book "You Can Judge a Book by Its Covers" then in production.

XIV. 1996 San Francisco, CA

The "California Girls," Maryline Poole Adams, Susan Acker, Carol Cunningham, and Dianne Weiss, entertained us royally in one of my favorite cities. We stayed at the Fairmont Hotel, high above the city, where our room looked across the Bay to Alcatraz. Our travelling exhibition was shown at the S.F. New Main Public Library. Our program included a book demonstration and workshop by Ed Hutchins of Editions, followed by a delightful Wine Country excursion that took us over the Golden Gate Bridge. Another highlight was the memorable luncheon in Sausalito at the beautiful hillside home of Jane Baird of Castle Baird Press, overlooking the Bay and reached by funicular from the road above. Favors at the Banquet included fortune cookies filled with miniature book sayings, such as "Tho this be miniature, yet there's method in't," and "I regret that I have but one life to give to my miniatures." A good time was had by all.

XV. 1997 Bethlehem, PA

Our Conclave included tours of the historic Moravian district, the Ephrata Cloisters, and the bookshops of Lancaster, as well as the Linderman Library at Lehigh University. Michael Garbett was our very entertaining banquet speaker. We ended on a high note with a delightful picnic supper at Jane and Joe Conneen's Little Farm where Jane let us explore the fascinating art studio where she created her exquisite prints.

XVI. 1998 Charleston, SC

Three interesting seminars opened our conclave in this delightful and historic city. Donn Sanford's informative talk on miniature books and the Internet; Donna Thomas's beautiful slides of contemporary miniature books, some new to us; and Stephen Cape's program on the care and handling of miniature books. Our travelling exhibition was housed at the Robert Small Library at the College of Charleston, which also displayed miniature books bound by the late Albert Scheirer. Hilda Neiman, one of our most senior members, impressed us with her unwiltable enthusiasm at the Book Fair and was still fresh enough to dance a jig that evening at our reception! We all enjoyed our carriage rides past the city's beautiful antebellum and Victorian architecture, and our bus trip to Boone Hall with its famous Avenue of Oaks. At the banquet president Arthur Keir awarded me with the Glasgow Cup, a great honor of which I am extremely proud. Our auction netted the impressive sum of almost \$4900.

XVII. 1999 Koblenz, Germany

Our third international Conclave was a very special one. The relatively small attendance included members from 10 countries, and all agreed that the intermingling and fellowship added greatly to the enjoyment. Koblenz is a small city at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers with a lovely historic area and many fine restaurants and shops. The city library hosted a beautiful traveling exhibition of miniature books assembled in honor of our own Louis W. Bondy. Special events included a trip to Mainz and the Gutenberg Museum, a spectacular fireworks display of "the Rhine in Flames," and a tour of Marksburg Castle high above the river. Our Book Fair was held in the Electoral Palace. The banquet speaker, a Jungian philosopher, speculated on why people collect miniature books and what it reveals about their personalities. Post Conclave tours were to Trier, an ancient city near the French border where the Emperor Constantine lived, and a boat trip to St. Groar, a charming village near the Lorelei.

XVIII. 2000 Rutland, VT

About 115 people attended this meeting in beautiful Vermont. The first evening following the silent auction Marvin Hiemstra gave a presentation, "A Book in Hand." Saturday workshops included Bob Massmann on his Binding techniques, Paul Devenyi on Hungarian miniature books, Neale Albert on designer bindings, Donna Thomas on shape books and how to do hand scrying, Stuart Copans and Audrey Arellanes on the history of miniature book plates, and Joy and John Tonkin from Australia, who showed many examples of their fine work. We visited Hildene, home of Robert Todd Lincoln in Manchester, and, most exciting to me, Tuttle's famous antiquarian book shop, run by our chair Jon Mayo and now, sadly, closed.

XIX. 2001 Indianapolis, IN

This Conclave will be long remembered for our visit to Indiana University and its huge and beautifully done exhibition of the Ruth E. Adomeit Collection, "4000 Years of Miniature Books." All James Lamar Weygand's miniature books were also on view, and Donn Sandford gave a presentation on this famous publisher's Press of the Indiana Kid. Bonnie Stahlecker demonstrated the mechanics behind pop-up books. Bohn and I managed to squeeze in a trip to Indianapolis Museum of Art. We wound up the weekend by visiting Conner Prairie, an open-air living history museum in Fishers, IN.

XX. 2002 Covington, KY

Vice President Jon Mayo presided due to the illness of President Neale Albert. Presentations included Ann Bain on decorative paper, Jack Cooney of Shaker Press Books on boxmaking, K. Nelson Harper of Ars Brevis Press on letterpress printing, and Margaret Rhein of Terrapin Paper Mill on papermaking. This was followed by a lunch cruise on the Ohio River and a walk through a river village with interesting old buildings and shops (where I found two wonderful tiles made in Bucks Co., PA). We were saddened to hear of the death during the past year of charter member and founder Kal Levitan, who was awarded the Glasgow Cup posthumously. Sorry, I have no photos from this Conclave.

XXI. 2003 Toronto, Canada

Our fourth international Conclave. Margaret Challenger gave a most instructive demonstration of her amazing calligraphy techniques. The Toronto Public Library displayed many miniature books from the Osborne Children's Book Library, which we were allowed to examine closely and to photograph. Also on display was a wonderful exhibition of Beatrix Potter items—books, games, toys, figures, etc., that I found particularly attractive. It included stuffed animals made by one of the librarians. A trip to Niagara Falls on the Canadian side was an exciting conclusion to this Conclave.

Caroline Lindemann's Conclave History will be continued in future issues.

MINIATURE BOOK NEWS

8 ST. ANDREWS DRIVE • ST. LOUIS, MO • 63124

CREATIVE SCHOOL PROJECT IN AUSTRIA

Angelika Jaeck, 2009 Glasgow Cup Award recipient and our Society's indefatigable European representative, reported on a creative high school miniature book project that took place in Austria last May. Here is her report:

... A class of 16 year olds in a school in Saalfelden, Austria, were assigned an interesting project this year. The project was initiated their teacher, Gerald Schuergel, who is interested in printing, binding, language, and miniature books. The class was divided into 4 groups and each group had to make a miniature book from the scratch. Out came 4 one-of-a-kind books. Each has a leather binding over wooden boards. The title page of each book is letterpress printed. All books have tipped in poems or texts done in calligraphy on parchment, there are illustrations and initials in all books, some elaborate in color, some black & white. A different coin is inserted on the cover of each book. Each book has a different text, written by members of each group about stages in the life of Ladislaus the Posthumous, King of Bohemia from his birth until his early death at the age of 17.

... Part of the project was to sell the finished books and they chose ebay for that.

The project was developed very carefully, by dividing it into three parts: Typesetting and Printing (Satz und Druck), Binding, and Marketing. Photographs were taken throughout the process, and some of these are shown below:



MUSEUMS IN EASTERN EUROPE

Yaroslav Kostyuk, our indefatigable correspondent in Moscow, enlightens us with a comprehensive report about specialized miniature book museums in Eastern Europe.

Yaroslav begins his article on Museums of tiny books with an effort in 1987 at the Russian State Library in Moscow which identified "209 museums, libraries and other establishments engaged in exhibiting books." Yaroslav then describes a museum as an institution which has a collection (of miniature) books, a director or main keeper, and open access. He differentiates a museum from a "private assembly or collection" and indicates the difficulty sometimes in distinguishing between the two.

Yaroslav then identifies and describes seven museums that specialize exclusively in miniature books.

Of course this report is dealing with museums basically in Eastern Europe. The Western model is different in that there are many libraries in the U.S., Canada, the U.K. and France, for example, that have extensive collections of miniature books, but no "museums" like the ones Yaroslav covers.

Excerpts from his report follow:

Museums of tiny books. A brief sketch

It is not important how much books you have.

It is important how they are good.

Seneca "The Letters".

In the list below (in the chronological order) are described seven museums known to me specializing only on tiny books, which position themselves as museums of the tiny book. The first museum has appeared in Japan (1967); next - in Poland (1970); Yugoslavia (1983); USSR (1985), Ukraine (1996); Azerbaijan (2002); and Russia (2003). From seven museums four are created on the basis of personal assemblies (in Japan, Poland, Ukraine and Azerbaijan), and three - on the basis of receipts from private persons and public organizations. As a reminder Russia considers a book to be miniature if the edition is in a binding cover at which the maximal size does not exceed 100 mm. . .

In 1967 Dr. Jun Ogasawara in his own house has founded "Gendai Mamehon-kan". In English this translates to "Museum of the modern book in size with a bean kernel" or the Museum of the modern tiny book. Most likely, it is the very first museums of tiny books in the world. The museum settles down in the city of Fujieda-Shi on 1-st floor of the two-storied house. At an entrance stands a coin box in the form of an owl where visitors throw money (the entrance tickets there are 50 yen). In the next room there is a cafe in which it is possible to eat and also to buy books. There are now about 6000 mini-books in the Museum (in 1978 there were 4000), from which 1000 are exposed at stands in a hall by the area 12 square meters. . .

On June, 24th, 1978 the Moscow collector of tiny and micro books Ashot Badalov, being in Japan at the International conference on telecommunication, has met in the museum its founder and has examined an exposition². The unique "exit" exhibition of mini-books took place in 1998 in the city museum Fujieda-Shi located nearby. . .

In 1970 in the Polish city of Katowice, the "Muzeum Najmniejszych Książek Świata Zygmunta Szkocnego" ("Zigmunt Szkocny's Museum of the smallest books of the world"), was opened. . .

(See more about Zigmunt Szkocny in the following article)

On December, 23rd, 1983 under the initiative of known Hungarian collector Istvan Bada (was born in 1933), the founder and the owner of publishing house "Forum", in the Yugoslavian city of Novi Sad has been open "Muzej Mini-Knjiga" ("The Museum of the mini book"). . .

In the letter from January, 25th, 2006, Istvan Bada, in particular, wrote to me the following: "Since 1970 I have printed 185 (165 - under official press releases - a comment of the author) mini and micro books; in funds of a museum there are 4654 tiny books... It has been organized about 1200 exhibitions at schools, cities and abroad. . .

The initiator of creation the Museum of tiny book in Moscow was the first chairman of the Moscow Club of Miniature Books Lovers (MCMBL) Pavel Pochtovik (1905-1994.) On June, 5th, 1984 he has acted at the next session of club with the message "About creation of the Museum of tiny books" 5. In one and a half year, on December, 24th, 1985 in publishing house "Kniga" ("Book") took place the exit session of club dated for opening of an exposition of the first turn of a museum. . .

In October, 1987 known it is far outside the republic (Ukraine then still was in structure of the USSR) Ukrainian collector Veniamin Razumov (1915-2001) has opened in own house in the city of Gorlovka (Ukraine, Donetsk area) a public "Museum of the tiny book". On October, 7th, 1991 all collection of tiny editions numbering 7008 books, he has transferred in gift to native city. On June, 1st, 2001 the collection tiny and micro books has been placed in a building of the Central City Library a name of T.G.Shevchenko. . .

For last ten years the collection has increased more than for 1500 units and on the beginning of 2009 totals 8600 copies tiny and micro books from 57 countries in 103 languages. . .

On April, 23rd, 2002 in capital of the Azerbaijan Republic, city Baku has been open "The Museum of the tiny book" 8, 9. The author of idea and the founder of a museum became Zarifa Salakhova, the collector with more than 25-years experience. By education she is the philologist, more than 20 years headed a Republican Society "Kitab" ("Book"). . . The museum is located on a ground floor of the three-floors private house, in the center of a historical part of Baku. . .

Now Zarifa - the main keeper, and her daughter Suad - director of a museum. In expositions of private museum of Zarifa Salakhova, an entrance in which free-of-charge, it is presented about 5300 tiny books. . .

On April, 23rd, 2003 in Moscow has opened "The Museum of the tiny book of the International Union of Book Lovers". The initiator of idea was Sergey Shuvalov (1932-2003) - the Chairman of Executive Committee of Advice of International Union of Book Lovers.



More about Zigmunt Szkocny and his 165 miniature books

In the last issue of MBN (No. 138, July 2009) there was a short article about this unusual producer of miniature books in Poland after World War II. Guinness Book of Records cited one of his works in 1976 as the world's smallest prayer book. Yaroslav Kostyuk has shed more light on this eccentric microbibliophile:

It is interesting, that the collection consisted only of hand-written tiny and the micro books, executed by the Polish micro miniaturist Zigmunt Szkocny (1911-2003) only by himself.

Considering the eccentricity of Zigmunt Szkocny, it is necessary to tell about his life and works. He was born on July, 31st, 1911 in Czeladz, Poland. After his early education, in 1955 at the age of 44 he entered the Krakow polytechnic institute.

For 25 years he worked as the expert in regional legal matters at the Court in Katowice.

Zigmunt's early interest in books started in elementary school. In 1934 by a technical feather and ink there was written Z.Shkotsny's first tiny book about events of 1912 - "III Powstanie Śląskie" ("The third Silesian revolt") on 112 pages, a format 20x15mm, with use of 15 280 letters. Then four more books were written (Fryderyk Chopin, Tomasz Edison, Alfred Nobel, Maria Sklodowska-Curie). All of them were the size less than 4 mm, and by the master who was then 23 years old! Unfortunately, the significant part of the collection was destroyed during World War II. After the war the artist wrote micro books with biographies (Leonarda da Vinci, Jan Pawel II, Wislawa Szymborska). In 1976 he created manually using only a technical feather his unique product - "Latin alphabet" (28 p., 1x0,8 mm)! For this micro book he received the certificate "Guinness World Records" as the author of the "the smallest book".

The author wrote all the products on special paper. Later he has developed own technique of the letter by technical feather. The feather should be so is perfect that it did not scratch the paper, and it was necessary so to dilute the ink so that it did not dry up on a feather. During this process Szkocny did not use magnifying devices. Working above the book, he held his breath as the work demanded huge concentration and was the extremely tiresome. The tiny pages were then sewed by a thin silk string, consisting in piercing papers of microscopic apertures and passing a string in them. The master also was engaged in the binding of books themselves. Szkocny has developed a special method of exhibiting on specially designed pedestals. On each book was applied the tablet with the information on the size, quantity of pages and even letters. Unfortunately, after death of the master, now Jan Szkocny (Zigmunt's son) tries to save a unique collection from the remaining 87 micro books and a unique museum in a private apartment.

Some tablets and miniature books from Szkocny Selection:



LJUBLJANA: UNESCO WORLD CAPITAL OF BOOKS IN 2010

Martin Znidarsic of Ljubljana, Slovenia reports the following glowing information in a recent letter:

Now I have a great news: Ljubljana has been named by UNESCO the World capital of Books for 23rd April 2010 to 23rd April 2011.- It will be a great event, the patronage has been accepted by our President of the Republic.

Within the numerous activities there will be an exhibition of miniature books – a selection of my collection of about 1500 minis. It will be named »4.000 years of Miniature books – from Summerian clay tablet to the Bible on a chip – The collection of Dr. Martin Znidarsic« As you have seen, we have borrowed part of the title from your book! Mr. Pawan Singh of MIT has agreed to send me a copy of the tiniest bible! There will be miniature books from some 50 States in numerous languages. There will be – like back in 2003 – a catalogue in Slovene and English. The Patronage of the exhibition will be taken by the Mayor of Ljubljana.

You have said in one of your mails that you might come to Ljubljana – the exhibition would be an excellent occasion to do it! The exhibition opens in September 2010.

Blogs on the Web

Lilly Library blog:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/blog/archives/193>

Booked-out: miniature handmade books and what goes into making them

<http://booked-out.blogspot.com/>

This is a superb offering from Jan Kellett of De Walden Press. The blog was just begun in July of this year, but contains a wealth of information.

In Memorium

**Joe D'Ambrosio
1934-2009**

A book artist of enormous talent and energy, he was widely celebrated by collectors for the creative editions he produced. He garnered equal praise from fellow artists for his dedication and generosity of spirit. For thirty years, he was a friend and collaborator, producing numerous books and keepsakes for us. He will be deeply missed.

New Members:

Christina Amato
233 Cedar Street
Somerville MA 02145
617 372-3732 (h)
617 495-8596 (o)
xamato@yahoo.com

Rita Cleary
20 Willis Drive
Trenton, NJ 08628
609 882-3073 (h)
609 558-0628 (cell)
KeepItReal08628@yahoo.com

Polly Eaton
18 Boxwood Circle
Yarmouth Port MA 02675
508 362-8520 (h)
239 537-5771 (cell)

Al House
15575 Tyler Station Road
Beaverdam VA 23015
804 449-1425 (h)
minibooks@house-of-items.com

Carolyn M. Killeen
6450 Pelican Bay Blvd #B305
Naples FL 34108
239 592-1123 (h)

Carmen Tostado
54596 Primavera Drive
Yucca Valley CA 92284-2386
760 365-9628 (h)
catalunafish@aol.com

Roberta Walsh
97 Colburn Drive
Poughkeepsie NY 12603-5103
845 462-7129 (h)
845 687-5218 (o)
Ro.walsh@verizon.net

Renewed Members:

Alderman Library
Cataloging/Periodicals
P O Box 400151
Charlottesville VA 22904-4151

Alicia Bailey
1164 Boston Street
Aurora, CO 80010-3030
720 230-4566 (h)
303 340-2110 (cell)
720 282-4052 (w)
303 479-9559 (f)
aliciabailey@mac.com
www.aliciabailey.com
Ravenpress

CHANGEABOUTS

Loretta Gentile
10 Albert Street
Waltham MA 02453
781 891-1025 (h)
gentileloretta@yahoo.com

Kevin Grace
51 W Charlotte Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215-2012
513 556-1959 (h)
kevin.grace@uc.edu
Harout & Carol

Anne Kouyoumdjian
P O Box 111
Columbia City IN 46725-0111
260 609-4504 (h)
260 609-4505 (o)
404 343-6335 (f)
minibks@gmail.com
Antik Huset

Bruce Crossan Ogilvie
2123 Grace Road #2
P O Box 1734
Frankfort MI 49635-1734
231 352-9188 (h)
BCO_fcps@att.net

Maria G. Pisano
6 Titus Lane
Plainsboro NJ 08536
609 799-3941 (h & o)
mgpstudio@aol.com
Memory Press

Edna Wright
P O Box 445
Murietta, CA 92564-0445
951 677-6819 (h)
wriighthand@ca.rr.com

Address Changeabouts:

Dr. Lunawati Bennett
4008 Dorado Drive
Palm Beach Garden FL 33418

Michael & Judy Jacobs
2850 SW Yancy Street
Seattle WA 98126
206 696-1103 (h & o)

Joan Lorson
Lorson's Books & Prints
861 Cheshire Lane
La Habra CA 90631
714 526-2523 (h & o)
lorson@earthlink.net

Beth & Bill Morley
Briargate, 234-4567 Bath Road
Amherstview ON K7N 1A8
CANADA

Rev. Msgr. Peter A. Routhier
St. Joseph Co-Cathedral
35 Elmwood Avenue
Burlington VT 05401

Susan Dawson Smith
7580 S. Sicily Street
Aurora CO 80016
303 912-7889 (cell)

Cherry Williams, Curator of
Manuscripts
Lilly Library, Indiana University
1200 E. 7th Street
Bloomington, IN 47405-5500
chedwill@indiana.edu
812 855-3187 (o)

Email Changeabouts:

Gail Curry
curry.gail@att.net

Philip & Anna Morrison
piano88print@sbcglobal.net

C. & K. Okuyama
atelierdulierre@neuf.fr

Tom Parks
TParks9@suddenlink.net

Karen Roehr
ker4@comcast.net

Alma Sanderson
alma@almasanderson.com

Telephone Changeabouts:

Dean Gattone
910 264-2524 (o)

Jackie Waldfogel
727 480-7974 (h)

Ellen Wiener
631 765-3153 (h)
516 317-0269 (o)
www.ellenwiener.com

Website Changeabouts:

Eileen Cummings
www.myminiaturebooksforsale.com

BRIEF NOTES

New Catalogs

Miniature Books. Bradbury
Miniature Books Catalogue #49,
September, 2009. Brooklyn, NY.

Miniature Book Catalog #22,
November 2009. Karen Nyman,
San Diego, CA. (Online)

Call for entries

Abecedarian Gallery juried book arts
exhibition in 2010. Artists Book
Cornucopia in all categories (other
than altered) will be on view
April 1 - May 6, 2010;
deadline for entry is
January 20, 2010.
www.abecedariangallery.com

Renewal reminder

Members should have received the 2009
Exhibition Catalog and Glen Dawson, An
Autobiography, along with their dues re-
newal form. Karen Nyman has a limited
number of signed copies of the autobiog-
raphy, available for \$45. Please contact
Karen if you would like a copy.

Lorson Books change

With the passing of book and print
dealer Jim Lorson his wife Joan is

closing the Fullerton, CA, store, but
she and her staff will continue doing
miniatures. Phone, email and web
page remain the same:
phone 714-526-2523
lorson@earthlink.net
www.lorsonbooksandprints.com
861 Cheshire Lane, La Habra, CA
90631

Member queries

1) Neale Albert is seeking information
about miniature books about Mozart
or his music.

2) He and Julian Edison are trying to
compile a list of all the miniature books
published by Hoshino, a Japanese minia-
ture book publisher.

Richmond, Virginia exhibit

In June and July of this year, Caroline Y.
Lindemann displayed miniature paint-
ings by Mary Ann Brandt, the late artist
whose work is the subject of Caroline's
Cyclone Press miniature book "Miniature
Finger Paintings." The exhibit included
other books from Caroline's collection to
attract interest to paintings so small
that they could easily have been over-
looked.

Advertising Rates

Full Page	4.5 x 7.5"	\$100.00
Half Page	4.5 x 3.75"	\$50.00
Quarter Page	2.25 x 3.75"	\$30.00

Send ads to:

Joan Boring
3204 Wildwood Rd.
Middletown, OH 45042
jboring@middletownlibrary.org

Mail payments for ads (in \$ US dollars)
(paypal address minibook@cox.net) to:

Karen Nyman
702 Rosecrans Street
San Diego, CA 92106-3013

Miniature Book Society Newsletter

A publication of the Miniature Book Society Inc. Number 82

Issued in March, July, November. Items for publication, including advertising material should be sent to the Editor. Publication deadlines are: February 1, June 1, October 1. Payment for advertising should be made to Miniature Book Society Inc. and sent to the Treasurer.

The Miniature Book Society is an international non-profit organization founded in 1983 and chartered by the state of Ohio, USA. Its purposes are to sustain interest in all aspects of miniature books; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas; to serve as a clearinghouse for information about miniature books.

Website: www.mbs.org

Toll-free phone (USA & Canada):
1-877-MBS-1983

Board of Governors for 2009-2011

President: Mark Palkovic
Vice-President: Stephen Byrne
Secretary: Edward Hoyenski
Treasurer: Karen Nyman
Past President: Julian Edison

Members at-large:

Christina Amato
Kathy King
Joan Knoertzer
Karen E. Roehr

Membership in the Society is open to all interested individuals, organizations and institutions. Membership dues in United States dollars: \$40.00 individual/couple for USA members, \$45.00 individual/couple for Canadian members; \$55.00 individual/couple outside North America. Corporate membership: \$40.00 (USA), \$55.00 (Canada), \$65.00 (outside North America).

Membership inquiries and dues payments:

Karen Nyman, Treasurer
702 Rosecrans Street
San Diego, CA 92106-3013
619-226-4441 (h)
619-225-8585 (o)
619-226-4441 (f)

karennyman@cox.net

Mail payments for ads
(in \$ US dollars) (paypal address
minibook@cox.net)

Newsletter Editor:

Joan Boring
3204 Wildwood Road
Middletown, OH 45042
(513) 594-7395
jboring@middletownlibrary.org
or joan_boring@yahoo.com

Miniature Book News Editor

Julian Edison
8 St. Andrews Drive
St. Louis MO 63124
(314) 567-3533
jjestl@mac.com

Manuscripts, letters and news items are welcomed and are subject to editing due to space and style limitations. Preferably submissions should be made electronically, by e-mail or disk. Attachments on Microsoft Word would be preferred. Articles in the Newsletter do not necessarily express the views of the Board or of the Editor.

Deadline for the next issue: February 1, 2010.

Printed by Alliance Printing & Mailing Services
Middletown, OH

Brontë Press is 32 years old! Check these offerings:

Sir Laurence Olivier features 10 original hand water-colored illus. Life of the stage and screen actor who appeared in 121 plays and 56 films. \$29.95



Anna Pavlova, Queen of the Dance with 14 original hand water-colored illus. Poor Russian girl who decided as a child to become a ballerina and achieved worldwide fame. \$24.95



The Beautiful Vivien Leigh with 9 original hand water-colored illus. Superb English actress born in India who achieved most fame in America. \$24.95



All books bound over boards in editions of 40 signed copies by Suzanne Prushnicki. The Brontë Press, 6712 N. 4180 W. Road, Bourbonnais, IL 60914 (815-932-5192)

5400 MINIATURE BOOKS TO BE SOLD

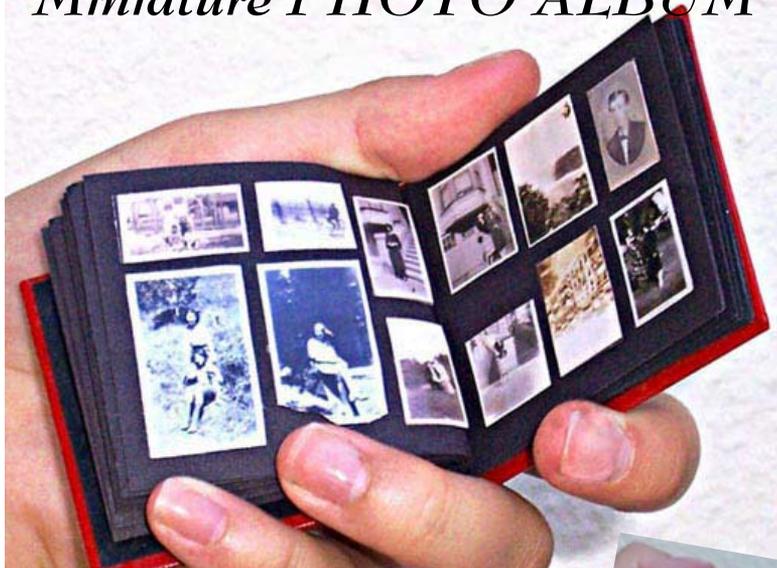
After 45 years of collecting, I will sadly, sell my collection. Please send an email to inkydew@aol.com In the subject line, please write "MINIATURE BOOK INVENTORY". It will be in an EXCEL file spreadsheet. Shipping is extra. Paypal is extra (3.9% plus \$.30 as per Paypal fees). I do accept checks. All money to be in US DOLLARS. I have established a website: www.myminiaturebooksforsale.com Photos are updated on site every few weeks.

I reserve the right to refuse to sell anything to anyone. Allow one week to find, pack & ship. I have MANY full size reference books and if you're looking for a rare one, I might have it. All reference material for sale. If you're considering the purchase of certain Presses, I will consider a "lot" price. Eileen Cummings

- Conclave XVIII
14. Phil Morrison, Shoestring Press
 15. Joy & John Tonkin, Book Arts, Australia
 16. Clair Bolton, Alembic Press
 17. Yaroslav Kostyuk
- Conclaves XIX and XX--no photos
Conclave XXI
18. Margaret Challenger, Calligrapher
 - Conclave XIII
 19. Ian and Helen Macdonald at the Huntington Library
(Sorry, I got this one out of order. Editor)



Miniature PHOTO ALBUM



We've re-created a miniature version of those traditional Photo Albums that used to sit on every parlor table. Our Album measure 3" wide, 2 1/4" tall with matte black pages and covers of red leather over boards. Leather-laced. Each page includes four to eight individual black & white or sepia photos from the olden days: Amateur snapshots of families...friends...special occasions...landmarks...treasured possessions.

The un-identified photos are from a variety of sources...taken at many different locations and at varying times over many years: No two Albums are identical. (*Two blank sheets are included should you want to add some of your own snapshots.*)

Albums include a matching red leather slipcase with gold-embossed title...not pictured.

*PRICE: \$85
plus \$5 shipping*

Shoestring Press

3 Monte Vista Road Orinda, California 94563
email: piano88print@sbcglobal.net
(925) 254-6639