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The Miniature Book Society, Inc is a non-profit organization chartered in 1983 by the State of Ohio. Its purposes are to sustain an interest in all phases of miniature books; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas; and to serve as a clearinghouse for information about miniature books. www.mbs.org

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Cover Photograph: After years of study, Patricia Pistner commissioned this architectural model in order to express her love of 18th century French design. The house and its furnishings represent some of the finest examples of the Louis XV and Louis XVI periods and are favorites of Pat Pistner. Ten years in the making, the Pistner House represent the work of more than 60 of the finest miniaturists from around the world.



Dean Gattone

Editor's Word

Spring is coming and with it a chance to get outdoors. For me it means, besides working in the garden, a chance to visit antique shows and swap meets to search for more "finds". I also collect Cambridge glass so there is lots to look at. Occasionally you can still find a bargain as many dealers still think small means of little value.

As I began sketching out this issue, I realized we reached No. 50. My article on the Newsletter tells what I found.

While we are all excited about

the conclave in Indianapolis this September and the chance to see Ruth Adomeit's collection at the Lilly Library, this issue contains reports from Julian Edison and Pat Pistner on other miniature collections around the country. The "Ladies of Mill Valley" continue to make an impact in both their community and on the MBS world. Our traveling exhibit always excites communities where its shown. Also, our Treasurer reports we are in a healthy financial condition.

As an organization, we have a lot to be thankful for as we "spring"

Still Time To Enter Book Exhibition

The closing date for this year's Miniature Book Exhibition is not until May 1, 2001. This Exhibition is open to all publishers, printers, designers, and binders of miniature books sized three inches or less published during the past two years. Distinguished Book Awards will be presented at the Society's Conclave in Indianapolis, Indiana this coming September.

For more information and an entry form send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

James DeLancey
2212 South Canterbury Road
Wilmington, NC 28403
or online at
jdelancey@ec.rr.com

Auction Donations Needed

Considerable monies are raised each year at our annual conclave from the book auction. Donations for this year's auction are urgently needed and your generosity will be much appreciated. Attention publishers and/or dealers: donating to the auction is a good way to get your work noticed—with more potential sales later at the Annual Book Fair.

The deadline for receipt of donations is June 15, 2001.

Anything received after that date will be saved for the following year's auction. Please send your donation to:

Robert Massmann
478 Glen Street
New Britain, CT. USA 06051

History Of The Newsletter: 50 But Really 66

In realizing the Society was about to publish #50 of the Newsletter, I began a search to see if this was truly a milestone. Much to my surprise (I have a short memory) this is really the 66th issue of the newsletter! Even some of us who were around seemed to forget so I have recounted a short history of the newsletter for us all.

—Dean Gattone, Editor

The first issue of our Society's newsletter appeared as Vol. 1, No. 1 in November 1983. However, it was originally called "Mini Bits". The second issue did not appear until March 1984 and then irregularly afterward. In February 1986 the name "Miniature Book Society Newsletter" appeared for the first time with the publication size changing to 5 1/2 X 8 1/2 inches. Generally from then until June 1988 the publication appeared three times per year although it size and format changed back to 8 1/2 X 11 from the December 1986 issue onwards. Sixteen issues were created in these formats.

In 1988 a Newsletter Guidelines Committee under the Chairmanship of Mark Palkovic (now our Treasurer) developed standards and policies under which future issues of the newsletter would be created. These included guidelines for standardizing format, content, and passing control of any major changes to the Board of Governors.

The first issue of the "new series" appeared as Number 1, January 1989 under the editorship of John Lathourakis. By today's standards it was a modest publication containing a colored hard cover and four internal pages.



The "new series" was generally published four times a year instead of the usual three in January, April, July and October—a practice that has continued.

But by October 1991 when new editor Donn Sanford took over, the colored cover was dropped and the publication had grown to its current 12-16 page format. Occasional use of color, and clear typesetting techniques set it apart from its predecessors.

In October 1995 when Msgr.

Francis J. Weber took over as editor, the NEWSLETTER changed sizes again, this time to 7.5 X 10 inches. It remained this size until the first issue under Editor Val Poska in January 1998, when it returned to 8 1/2 X 11 and has remained the same quality publication ever since.

For those collecting all issues I refer you to New Series No. 1 (January 1989), page 4 for a complete listing of the "Old Series" (November 1993 - June 1988).

Back in November 2000, there was an almost unnoticable report in the local papers about London's Guinness World Record regarding people getting into the records on smallest of sizes. They fitted a bee with a kneeband carrying the world's smallest ad to launch their Book of Records' Web site. The ad is slightly bigger than the diameter of a human hair worked out with lasers. This should put miniature book OLD KING COLE on alert.

We have all sorts of miniature books with references to our American presidents, from their inauguration addresses to historical anecdotes. Franklin Pierce's election to the presidency in 1853 came on the heels of a bitter campaign in which a number of political pamphlets flooded the cities. These plain booklets, 1 1/2 X 1 inch were highly critical and uncomplimentary to Pierce, the candidate. Who will be the first among our erstwhile miniature book publishers to meet the current challenge?

In the currently running TV show, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" a question relating to "Kachinas" was flunked by the contestant. Carol Cunningham, who also writes what she publishes, wrote

... "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" a question relating to "Kachinas" was flunked by the contestant.



an essay on "Kachinas" —the masked impersonators of supernatural beings, as well as the small

carved and highly decorated dolls so popular in the Southwest. Hopi traditions are reflected in every decorative detail in a miniature

book, 2 1/2 X 2 7/8 inches (1980). Publishing a miniature book is not the simplest of the arts, even for the experts. Take the case of Henry Morris. When he printed

his first and only Miniature for Bromer Booksellers, it was more than he bargained for. He set out to do the O. Henry "Gift of the Magi" but abandoned the project in a fit of frustration. But all was not lost. He made a scroll of the faulted sheets, using it for a Christmas memento. He added a touch of difference by enclosing the 2 1/2 inch wide scroll in a tiny bottle not quite three inches tall. He was so pleased that he "bottled" 250 copies.

Clarence Day, of "Life with Father" fame, wrote a piece called "Books" in 1965. This also appeared as a miniature 3 X 2 3/4 inches, and was such an outstanding little leaflet that it was recognized as such by the scholarly "American Notes and Queries."

Izaak Walton's "The Compleat Angler," or "The Contemplative Man's Recreation" was first published in 1653 and has gone through over 100 editions. Editors were encouraged to produce small-size copies because "the little volume was meant to find a place in the bulging pockets of anglers," said Andrew Lang. The smallest

edition ever was Henry Frowde's (London, 1905): 2 1/8 X 1 3/4 inches.

—Val Poska

MBS Conclave XIX

Indianapolis, Indiana
August 31-September 3, 2001



Fountain in front of the Lilly Library.

The 2001 Conclave will open Friday 31 August with a Board meeting, with Registration and a Hospitality Suite during the afternoon. Following a reception with a cash bar, the Welcome Dinner will take place in the evening.

Saturday 1 September includes:

- Continental breakfast
- Business Meeting
- Bus trip to Indiana University's Fine Arts Plaza.

The events of the day will include Tours of the Lilly Library and a major exhibition of its miniature books including books from the Ruth E. Adomeit Collection.

Two sets of tours of the Library will alternate with Fine Arts Librarian B.J. Irvine's presentation on the topic of Artist's books.

Donn Sanford will make a

presentation on collecting the output of James Lamar Weygand, proprietor of the Press of the Indiana Kid.

Bonnie Stahlecker will present an explanation and demonstration of the mechanics behind the movable modules of pop-ups.

At mid-day, a box lunch will be served on the Art Museum plaza.

After returning to Indianapolis there will be time for the Swap Meet and dinner on your own in Indianapolis before the Annual Book Auction.

Sunday 2 September includes:

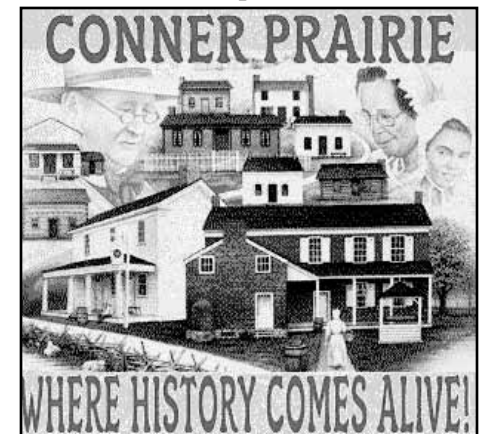
After a continental breakfast, the annual Book Fair will be open to members only in the morning, and after closing for lunch, be open to the general public in the afternoon. This will also be an

opportunity to explore the shopping and cultural facilities available in Indianapolis.

The evening will begin with a reception with cash bar, followed by the Annual Banquet and dinner speaker.

Monday 3 September

After a continental breakfast, those who sign up will be taken to Conner Prairie, an open-air living history museum located in Fishers Indiana. It offers the opportunity to explore the lives and times of early 19th-century settlers in the Old Northwest Territory, based upon the Indiana experience. It features a modern Museum Center, and four historic areas: the 1836 village Prrietown, the 1823 William and Elizabeth Conner Home, the Pioneer Adventure Area, and the new Lenape Camp & McKinnen's Trading Post. See their website:<http://www.conner-prairie.org/>



The Westin 50 South Capital Avenue. Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-262-8100 FAX317-231-3928 e-mail: india@westin.com
Room rates: \$99 Single, \$99 Double, \$99 Suite, \$119 Triple, \$119

The Pistners Exhibit Miniatures at New Museum in Naples, Florida

On November 7th of last year, the Naples Museum of Art opened its doors for the first time. As visitors walked through the magnificent gates created by metal smith Albert Paley they entered into the serene atmosphere of an outdoor courtyard. Looking up, the very first thing you see is a 90" wide by 30" high dome conservatory, which encases a stunning 36" long by 10" wide Venetian red glass chandelier by renowned artist Dale Chihuly.

Once inside, you can visit 15 galleries in the 3-story, 30,000 square-foot museum. An entire floor is devoted to the "Reflection of Chihuly", an inaugural exhibit that was created specially for the museum. A traveling exhibit of watercolors and drawings by Paul Signac, a French pointillist also highlights the grand opening.

The Permanent Collections consist of two very different bodies of work. There is the Modern Masters Collection, which consists of 278 pieces of American artists working



The mirrored walls and high ceilings make this a deceptively grand room. Of particular note are the delicate garlands and cherubs near the ceiling on the carved wood paneling. The austere use of ormolu (gilt bronze decoration) and the furnishings' classical lines give this room a elegant feel.

from 1900 to 1955, part of which is currently on exhibit. In addition, the Gow Collection of Ancient Chinese Art includes terra cotta and earthenware figures from the 4th century B.C. and represents every dynasty

through the 19th century.

The opening of the museum marks a significant moment in the history of Naples. Personally speaking, not having a fine arts museum was the one thing I missed most about living here. That is why my husband Steve and I joined in to support Myra Daniels, the visionary founder and C.E.O of the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts, in her quest to raise the \$10.6 million needed to create the museum.



I call this the dog room because our dogs Coco and Becky are the only "out of period" pieces allowed in the house.

As the museum progressed from concept to reality, Myra called to ask if I would exhibit my miniature French townhouse. If you'd know Myra, you'd understand that you just "Can't say No!" In that same conversation, she asked if I would be willing to curate an exhibition of the finest miniatures. The result, after many months spent designing, contracting, supervising and installing, the "Masters of Miniature" exhibit came to life in the Pistner Gallery.

The centerpiece of the exhibit is the Pistner House, a miniature model of an 18th century French townhouse featuring nine rooms of either Louis XV or Louis XVI design. These rooms contain some of the

finest miniature examples of Louis-period furniture. (MBS Newsletter, October 1999 issue). It is currently featured in the March issue of Miniature Collector magazine. And yes, we do miss having it in our family room!

One of my husband's favorite rooms, the Sala dell'Anticollegio (antechamber to the Senate chamber) in the Doge's Palace in Venice was made by Robert Dawson and his team at the Modelroom in London. This miniature commission was an enormous challenge with every square inch of the room decorated with stucco, paintings and fine timber paneling. The Canadian artist, Johannes Landman masterfully recreated the Tintoretto paintings and Veronese and Moro frescoes - a first in miniature.

A very special component of the gallery is the Ede & Ravenscroft Collection of Denis Hillman furniture. His miniature Bureau du Roi is considered the finest piece of miniature furniture in the world. Based on Louis XV's rolltop desk from Versailles, it has over 16,000 individually laid piece of varietal fruitwoods that make up the marquetry panels. The ormolu mounts are solid gold, and when you turn the key, the rolltop automatically retracts and the drawers simultaneously unlock. It took nearly five years to complete and Denis recalled, "Once you get involved in one of these, it's not work. It's very stimulating and you don't want to stop."

In total there are eighteen pieces of royal French furniture created in miniature by Denis Hillman on display. You can trace the history of furniture design from early Louis XV or Régence, through late Louis XVI style. For Denis, much of the appeal of creating miniatures is researching the history of the original furniture and recreating the pieces using authentic materials and techniques. He decision to make French furniture was that "Louis period furniture is different from

any other. The techniques of veneering, inlay, marquetry and metalwork - I think it's the most magnificent furniture ever made. It was ornate but also functional." Denis is a master of all these techniques and his work is exquisite, he is truly a Master of Miniature.

In contrast, the work of Eugene



The boudoir, with its delicately carved doors, provides a beautiful frame for the room's porcelain collection. The bird cage hanging from the ceiling has a fully automated bluebird with articulated wings, head and tail that move in coordination with its

Kupjack, this country's foremost miniaturist was less about precision than about illusion. The Pistner Gallery contains six Kupjack rooms, four on loan from Winterthur Museum and two from other Naples collectors. Unlike Hillman, who specializes in furniture from one time period, Kupjack created rooms covering a wide range of subject matter, from Louis-period to modern day dinners. Although each piece of furniture is not an exact replica, the overall effect of the Kupjack rooms is one of striking realism.

Across from the Kupjack rooms, the works of individual artist works are showcased so that one can fully appreciate the beauty and intricacy of the more delicate items

seen in the house. Over years of showing my "townhouse" to friends, I found they were always interested in the decorative accessories. One can get up close and concentrate on the brush strokes in paintings by renowned miniature artists Johannes Landman, Dmitri Pavlensky and James Buckingham. The refined work of silversmiths Jens Torp, Mike Sparrow and Harry Smith attract much attention, as do the incredible porcelains of Tricia Street and the petit-point rugs of Shirlee Greenberg which have 3600 stitches to the square inch.

But what attracts the most attention in this case are the miniature books! Anyone who takes a docent tour or reads the literature knows that there are over 350 books in the library of the Pistner House, but they do not comprehend what



Even in the best of homes the kitchens were of a more primitive nature. Notice the feathered pheasant and duck hanging in the corner waiting to be cooked.

miniature printing and illustration truly means. Two of Barbara Raheb's hand colored illustrated books are perched open to reveal their inner secrets and delight the viewers. My set of Pairault's "Collection Miniscule" which was bound in the eighteenth century French manner by Robert Lyon, provides an excellent example of quality bookbinding.

Most visitors agree that the exhibit is stunning and must be experienced first hand to be fully appreciated. Over 50,000 people

have been to the museum in the four months since it opened, and the Master of Miniatures exhibit remains one of the highlights. There are more people in our gallery than anywhere in the museum, and they stay longer!

I believe this is because miniatures touch the soul of the viewer in many ways. They tap into the "magic of childhood," as we all have spent many hours playing with "little" things. As adults, we can appreciate the talent of the artist who makes these tiny, yet exquisite pieces.

At the same time, miniatures provide a magical series of windows into history. In a very small space, one can identify with a specific period of time, of being in that time, eating the food, having a conversation, or sitting in a chair reading a book. The viewer transcends the moment

Julia Wightman Update

Edited with permission from *Miniature Book News*, No. 107 (December 2000)

We last reported on Julia Wightman and her bequest to the Morgan Library in 1997. Miss Wightman was a spinster with no close heirs, and she gave her vast collection of some 20,000 books to the Morgan Library. Julia was a prodigious and discriminating collector of many things including miniature books.

We recently re-visited the Morgan for an update and spoke with John Bidwell, the current Astor Curator of Printed Books and Bindings. Mr. Bidwell's responsibilities include organizing, cataloging, and in due course presenting to the public material from the Wightman bequest.

Mr. Bidwell indicated the bequest has been divided into four main categories: Bindings (mostly early), Graphic Arts, Miniature Books, and Children's Books. The Bindings category contains examples of early binding by Roger Payne, English restoration, silver bindings, very rare 18th century painted vellum German bindings, woman binders, English designer bindings, etc. In the Children's category are in addition to books in various languages, a large collection of children's games.

Regarding the miniature book collection, the Morgan has now put together a "Finding Aid" list which incorporates Wightman's four or five digit catalogue number, followed by author and/or title, a date, and an occasional note such as "not in Welsh."

This 31 page list contains about 1500 books which encompass a wide variety in various languages from ancient to contem-

porary, from Langenscheidt Lilliput Dictionaries to rarities. In the Morgan's reading room I selected some dozen of the more unusual books to look at with seven turning out to be miniatures:

1) *Regla De El Gran Patriarcha S. Benito*. Madrid, (1791), 247 pages, 3x2 1/2". with an engraved title page showing S. Benito. In a radiant embroidered binding of silk, with metal sequins and cloth ties, in mint condition.

The book then is encased in a red morocco pull-off box made by Wightman in 1959.

2) *Los Quatro Santos Evangelios*. Barcelona por Ivan Iolis... 1740. not paginated, 13/4X1 1/2". Dark embroidered binding. Front and back covers contain a

small rectangular cut-out at the center. Each cutout has a tiny embroidered shield covered in glass.

3) *Geistliches Haus- und Reisbuclein*. Ulm, 1665. Bound together with another work; 240 pages, plus 194 pages 2 7/8X2". Tortoise shell binding, including both covers and spine, four silver embossed corners on each cover, metal hinges, 2 silver clasps. Front and back covers contain a small silver heart attached with nails.

4) *Geistliche Psalmen und Lieder*. D.Mart. Luth... Frankfurt 1646. With another book; 266+210 pages 2 7/8X 1 1/2". In a contemporary black leather binding, elaborately gilt stamped, with scribed metal corners, metal clasps (one lacking).

5) *Heures Dediees A Monseigneur*. Le Dauphin. Paris, 1788. 192 pages, 3 1/4 X 2". Embroidered silver binding, with sequins.

6) *Officium B. Marie Virg.* Venice 1609. 511 pages, printed in red & black. 2 3/8 X 1 3/4". Hinged silver repousse binding, silver clasps.

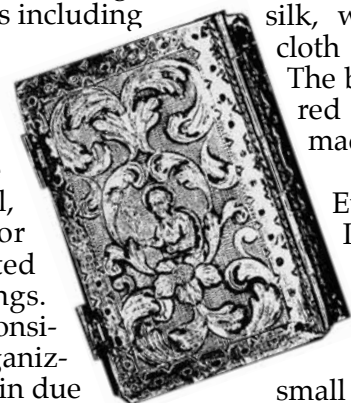
7) *Officium Beatae Mariae Virginis*. Paris, 1673. 280 pages, 3X2". Exquisitely detailed silver filigree covers and clasp; each cover has four corners with heart-shaped enamel portraits of biblical figures, and 8 tiny jewels plus centerpieces of enamel portraits!!

From the above you can get an idea of what might be in store for a beautiful exhibition someday. Wightman, who was a binder herself, delighted in making many of the box cases or slip cases, some in morocco, for her rarities.

Eventually Wightman's miniatures will be computerized and will include more standard bibliographical data. As you might guess, this is going to take some time. Bidwell has staff places but not people for three catalogers.

Seeing the collection now is a "chore" as the Morgan's rules are daunting. Besides pre-registering in advance in writing, there are three pages of rules to follow when using the collection. However, miniature book aficionados and researchers should look forward to learning more of Julia Wightman's fantastic collection.

—Julian Edison,
Editor



Top: Hinged silver repousse binding with silver clasps on a Venetian OBMV of 1609.

Bottom: Contemporary cover for a 1791 Spanish book showing silk embroidery, metal sequins, and cloth ties.

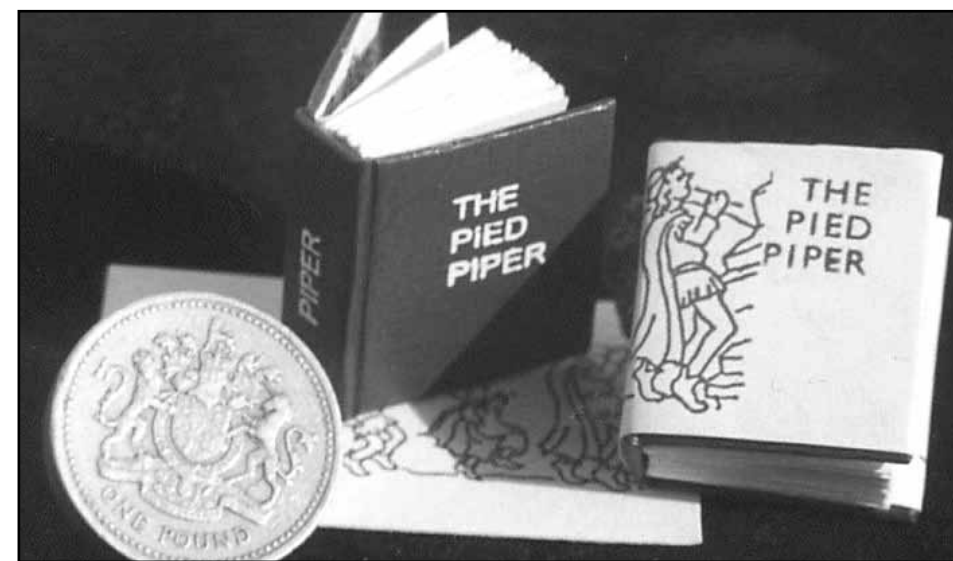
News from Europe

Those of you who attended the Conclave in Rutland found a nice little book by Hestan Press in their Keepsake-package - with extracts from the Book of the Wisdom of Solomon. I hadn't heard about this press before and was pleased to find their catalogue at Jan Kellets table. Back home, I searched for them on the Internet, found their interesting website, asked for some detailed information and ordered 2 books. Here is the article they sent me.

Miniature Editions from Hestan Isle Press.

Peter and Frances Grant's Hestan Isle Press was started in 1995 in an 18th century stone building overlooking the hills of Moffet in South-West Scotland. The building was erected about 1725 as a farmhouse with small windows and no chimney - but with a slate roof in the latest fashion! When a better house was built across the yard one hundred years later it became a labourer's cottage, and then a cowshed, and now a printshop, firewood store, and a place for general clutter.

Peter and his wife started



printing full-sized books all hand printed letterpress, but by 1997 had become fascinated by miniature books which now form most of their output. Some books are twelfth-scale for Doll House Collectors. Their latest is "Hiwatha's Childhood" from a poem by H.W. Longfellow. Frances has produced 23 tiny illustrations for this landscape format book measuring just 20 x 25 mm. They have an illustrated version of "The Pied Piper" the same size, and a "Victorian Cookbook".

If you are looking for a "Virtuous Women" (Proverbs chapter 33) then a look at their latest tiny book describes all the attri-

butes.

Early 2001 should see the completion of a Polish Cookbook (in English), not twelfth scale this time. If you want to try something different then this is the book in which to look for Roast Boar, Gingerbread, and Polish Dumplings. The book is illustrated with silk screen produced images.

All their books are limited editions, signed and numbered, and a catalogue is available.

They also have a website: <http://www.btinternet.com/~asimov.electronics/hestan/index.htm>

Address: Peter Grant, Barntimpin House, St Anns, Lockerbie, Scotland, DG11 1 HL

This a quotation from the catalogue: 'To hold in the palm of ones hand a tiny book, only one or two inches high, to read its pages, and enjoy its illustrations, is fascinating, intriguing, and strangely satisfying.'

— Peter Grant

I quite agree with him!

— Angelika Jaeck



A Report From Mill Valley

Diane Weiss and I (Carol Cunningham) are still pushing miniatures as hard as we can even though we missed two Conclaves. While not at the Conclaves we HAVE been busy and have managed to get considerable exposure for our books recently.



Carol Cunningham

We each had a book in the juried Book Makers West Coast show at Artisans Gallery, Mill Valley (October 99). My book was "Plouf!" which was not a miniature but its production consumed me for five solid months of furious work. That same month Dianne Weiss and I had a joint exhibition of a lot of books, in the Mill Valley Public Library. Unfortunately we forgot to take a photograph of what turned out to be a terrific show. Because of it we were invited to exhibit at the San Anselmo Public Library in August 1999. That show resulted in an invitation to exhibit at Oliver's Book Shop in San Anselmo. You can see how our books have been getting around!

In November 1999, "Plouf!" went to Seattle and was included in the Northwest Bookfest. Later it

was shown at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center.

I spoke with Ruth Simmons of Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ) who urged me to send quite a few of my miniatures to the Alden Jacob's Collection. In addition, I sent Dianne Weiss' "Carrousel" which is always a delight to view.

I entered "The Sun: An Alphabet" in the juried show put on by The Guild of Book Workers which had a year long trip to six cities throughout the USA.

In the year 2000 I was honored for my work in the book arts

with a Milley Award. This is given annually to people from Mill Valley for their contribution to the arts. The awards ceremony was a huge affair including cocktails, dinner, and awards with noted San Francisco Chronicle cartoonist Phil Frank acting as MC. I love my bronze award which is a beauty!

Last fall I gave a talk at the local Community Center about my miniature books and another at church one Sunday. As you can see, we are still trying hard to inform people of the thrill of miniature books.

—Carol Cunningham,

MBS Profit and Loss Statement 1/1/00 through 12/31/00

INCOME		Misc	36.43
Ads	\$1060.00	Newsletter	6827.43
Competition fee	610.00	Office	107.09
Conclave 2000	8500.00	Postage	650.76
Div Income	2067.00	Postage refund	42.01
Dues:		Supplies	17.30
New-2000	1120.00	Telephone	35.00
New-2001	512.48	Yearbook	1228.31
Renewal-2000	1575.00		
Renewal-2001	8535.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12553.89
Renewal-2002	120.00		
		INCOME - EXPENSES	\$11765.59
TOTAL Dues	11862.48		
Mail List Sale	25.00	ASSETS	
New member pack	95.00	Cash and Bank Accounts	
Other Inc	100.00	Checking	\$1168.45
		MMax	50967.63
TOTAL INCOME	\$24319.48	Savings	31.81
		TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$52167.89
EXPENSES		TOTAL ASSETS	\$52167.89
Award folders	\$25.85	LIABILITIES	\$0.00
Brochure	151.08		
Competition cat	1416.00	OVERALL TOTAL	\$52167.89
Conclave 2001 Indy	500.00		
Donations	300.00		
Duplication	31.38		
Freight	1046.75		
Glasgow Cup	48.50		
Incorp. fee	20.00		
Internet Dom. Reg.	70.00		

Catalogs

Bradbury, Robert C. "Miniature Books, Catalogue 6". (February, 2001). Worcester, MA.

Bromer Booksellers. "Catalog 109. A Selection of Books to be Displayed at the 34th California Book Fair." (February 23-25, 2001) Boston, MA.

The Catharijne Press. "Catalog No. 13 - Miniature Books". (2001) The Netherlands.

Challenger, Margaret. "Design Calligraphy Miniature Books." (January 2001) Cobourg, Ontario, Canada.

Garbett, Michael. "A Catalog of Miniature Books". (#19, January 2001) Almondsbury, England.

Tuttle Antiquarian Books. "Catalog 428 Miniature Books" (February, 2001). Rutland, VT.

New Books

J. Ed Newman, "The Count". (2001) JEN Press. 2 1/2X 1 3/4 in. (65 copies). Dust Jacket.



Jill Timm, "Flower Garden" (2000) Mystical Places Press (11 copies). Wood fence holds 4 photo fold out books.



Jill Timm, "Flower Garden, 2nd Edition" Mystical Places Press (2001) (50 copies). This is a single book from

Member News

Diane Weiss reports that the San Diego Book Arts organization devoted a full page in its winter newsletter to the 2000 Conclave, complete with photographs. This group's newsletter appears quarterly and serves the San Diego, California area letterpress and book arts community.

New member Maria G. Pisano's book "See Time Run: A Primer" will be shown in the 26th Print National exhibition at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY. from June 22 - Sept 2, 2001.

Paul Devenyi reports from Toronto, Canada that despite the miserably cold, snowy winter he and Mary have continued to work on their books and to assist Donn Sanford as President.

Jill Timm has just added her latest book, "Flower Garden," to her web site. Jill is a featured book artist in a brand new consumer book, "The New Photo Crafts", published by Lark Books.

Donna and Peter Thomas, Jan Kellett and Jill Timm are getting ready to exhibit and sell at the ARLIS

convention in downtown Los Angeles, California.

Neale Albert has been busy in New York City. He joined the Grolier Club and brought along some of his unique bindings as part of his admissions interview. He will be going to London in May to attend the London Dollhouse Festival and is starting a press under the name of Piccolo Press. He recently hosted Eileen Cummings (San Diego) while she was in New York.

Ed Hutchins is spending the winter in Oaxaca, Mexico. He has been busy making books and has met a number of Mexican book artists and papermakers. He recently gave a workshop at a papermaking collective in a village just outside Oaxaca. "I worked a solid week preparing handouts in Spanish and sample books with Spanish text. Everyone got a kit with 15 basic bookmaking tools, including a box cutter, a plastic picnic knife for scoring, erasers to carve, clamps and a push pin for making sewing holes. Everyone was very enthusiastic and appreciative. It was an unforgettable experience. See all of you in Indianapolis."

The Count - A Review

While miniature books about cats abound literally in the hundreds, those about dogs are relatively few and what comes to mind is Eugene O'Neill's "Last Will and Testament of an Extremely Distinguished Dog."

Joining the list is "The Count", short for Count of Monte Cristo, of the JEN Press. The bond between pets and their owners has always touched the hearts of those even outside the relationship. Pierre, a poodle, is one such animal whose story pulls at the proverbial heart-strings. Firemen may have had their Dalmations; J. Ed had The Count for a dozen years. Bound in bright green buckram with titles in gold leaf, this book is topped off with a white book jacket artistic in its simplicity.

—Val Poska

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The Count is a wonderful book.
—Neale M. Albert

The Count is filled with loving memories . . . I just couldn't hold back the tears.
—Ann Vrooman



THE COUNT by J. ED NEWMAN

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He =*The Count*= comes alive again in your words and in the charming photographs. His final trip to the Vet was sad. I got so taken up with his life, it was hard to deal with his death. —Sallie Shippen

The little book about Pierre is very touching. You may not remember, but I once had the privilege of giving him 'a friendly pat on the head.' Your tribute to him is just simply wonderful. —V. Davis

The Count is just exquisite! What a beautiful, heart-rending story. My words cannot praise this book enough.
—Mrs. Marion Tamborello

The Count is one of your best! The story of this dear little dog is compelling. The color illustrations show that your caricature of him is entirely accurate.
—Mrs. Bohn C. Lindemann

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Miniature Book Society
GRAND CONCLAVE XIX
Indianapolis, Indiana 31 August - 3 September

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Book Fair tables are \$25.00 each and are available only to MBS members who are registered for the Conclave. Tables will be assigned. Kindly indicate how you wish your table to be listed in the program on the form below. The Fair will close for Lunch.

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Mail form and payment to: Miniature Book Society
c/o Lilly Library
1200 E. Seventh Street
Bloomington, IN 47405-3301

Registrations must be received no later than July 31, 2001. No refunds after this date.

Time to register for the Grand Conclave!

See page 5

Registration Form on back

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Miniature Book Society Newsletter

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April 2001



President's Page



Donn Sanford

MBS Is Many Things . . .

Our Society is many things to many people, each according to his or her need and specialized interest. For some, it's a source of regular information about miniature book collecting or publishing, gleaned through the pages of our quarterly Newsletter. For others, it's more social than bibliographical, feeding a casual interest in tiny

books as the basis for exploring new friendships.

For some, especially the book-artists and printers, MBS provides recognition of their outstanding work through the annual Book Exhibition. There is no other program that directly and exclusively spotlights the year's outstanding miniature books. Without question, this is one of the organization's most vital programs. Not only does it recognize outstanding work, it feeds our traveling display, which, in turn, helps attract new collectors and members. This year's Exhibition program, chaired by Jim DeLancey, is now open for entries and I urge all our publishers to consider participation. Details will be found in this issue of the *Newsletter*.

For others, the annual Conclave is, in itself, sufficient reason to belong to the Society, and they look forward to it for a variety of reasons - seminars and workshops, local cultural visits, the auction and bookfair, shopping, socializing, even a vacation. Whatever your reason for attending, Conclave XIX in Indianapolis offers the proverbial "something for everyone," including splendid opportunities for art lovers. Paul Brown and

Steve Cape have assembled a worthy program, and I hope to see you there. For many of us, the highlight will be the opening of an exhibit of Ruth Adomeit's books, now housed at the Lilly Library. The complete schedule is elsewhere in this issue.

But, for those who can't attend a Conclave, there's another opportunity to meet other collectors and publishers, and to swap notes about books and collections. Neale Albert has suggested that members in or near metropolitan areas can arrange informal meetings and benefit from the exchange of information - even buying and selling books! Neale plans to host such a meeting in New York, and I will do so in Chicago. How about Boston? Washington? Toronto? London? Los Angeles? San Francisco? Ohio? Pennsylvania? New England? For the cost of coffee, tea, soft drinks and munchies, members can enjoy a wonderful afternoon or evening talking about books and collecting. All that's required is a host/hostess willing to invite other members in their area.

In that vein, Angelika Jaeck is hosting a similar event (albeit more inclusive) in Berlin on May 18-20. A number of European members are panning to attend, and I urge anyone within traveling distance to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to meet face to face.

MBS can be whatever its members want it to be. It's great for learning more about miniature books, and it also provides wonderful opportunities for forging new friendships. What more could we ask?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donn".