



Miniature Enthusiasts of Edmonton Club



March, 2007 VOLUME 22 NUMBER 3 est. 1982
Box 70045, Londonderry Post Office, Edmonton, AB T5C 3R6

General Meetings: Held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month: 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. at McClure United Church, 13708-74 Street, Edmonton.

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

Admission: \$2.00 Membership: \$20.00

Executive Contacts

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

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

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

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

Workshops: The next workshops are April 3rd and 10th, 2007. The first one will be presented by Linda Austin, to make jewellery. The April 10th workshop will be offered by Karen Jones, making hats, hats, and more hats!

General Meeting: The next general meeting will be held on April 17th, 2007. You are invited to bring your "latest and greatest", or one of your "tried and true" miniature displays or collections to Show and Tell. Although Easter/Spring themes would be timely, anything goes, and everything is welcome.

Important Notes from Last Meeting

Note: these are not official minutes. These are my recollections of a number of key decisions that were made at the last meeting, as a result of majority votes by the MEE members present at the meeting:

- Karen Jones, the MEE President, opened the meeting by offering a public apology for allowing the vote on the MEE 25th Anniversary Celebration to occur at the January meeting, even though a quorum was not present. Karen also thanked Louise Zawada and her committee for the work that had been undertaken to plan the event.
- The MEE 25th Anniversary Celebration will occur on Saturday evening, September 22, 2007, the night before the annual Show and Sale (September 23, 2007). Note that there will NOT be a workshop on September 22.
- The venue that was selected from a number of alternatives was the Royal Executive Inn, the same venue at which the Annual Show and Sale will occur on September 23, 2007.
- The importance of bringing display items to the 25th Anniversary Celebration was emphasized. Since the Celebration will be in the same room as the Show and Sale, these items can be left overnight ready for the next day's displays.
- Karen Jones, the MEE President, asked for volunteers to undertake responsibility for the 25th Celebration, but no-one volunteered. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Printable of the Month – Household Supplies

This month's printie is a set of household and laundry supplies for your mini-kitchen or laundry. Generally, the following steps should be followed:

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 **Kleenex box**, when cutting out the box, also cut a slit in the center of the top of the box. Then, follow general instructions to the end of step two. Before gluing, cut a small square from a Kleenex tissue (using only one thickness), and insert through the slit on the box top. When positioned to your liking, glue in place, then proceed to complete the box as per general instructions.

For the **aluminium foil box**, after box has been constructed as per general directions, cut a section of round toothpick or other small piece of wood to fit inside the box. Cut a piece of aluminium foil the same size as the toothpick. Glue aluminium foil to one end of the toothpick, and roll up, leaving about 3/4" of foil free. Insert in box, and partially close lid over the foil.

For all boxes, you may want to use a felt pen of the same color as the finished box to cover any white lines resulting from the sides of the white paper being visible, or to blend in a fold.

Minis On-Line

- <http://www.sandyslance.com/wholesale/> - Sandy's Lace and Victorian Trims – wholesale lace, ribbons, trim, findings, supplies, fabrics, etc. The retail outlet for these items is <http://www.miniatureluxuries.com/store/>.
- <http://www.mountainminiatures.com/> - general purpose miniature furniture and supplies.
- <http://www.reddragonpottery.com/mini.htm> - high quality wheel-thrown miniature pottery.
- <http://www.tools2scale.co.uk/> - fine miniature tools for kitchen, shed, workshop, garden, etc.
- <http://www.hildaburden.co.uk/> - handmade leather luggage and accessories, made up or in kits.
- <http://www.richardstacey.com/> - miniature brick and stone products.

Techniques – Rubber Stamping

Over the last few months, this newsletter has been presenting a series of articles taken from the November 1995 **Nutshell News** on decorative painting techniques for miniatures. This month's topic is rubber stamping. Only four topics left: faux wood techniques, spongework, stippling, and crackle. Rubber stamping is a fast and easy method of multiple image transfer. The variety of rubber stamp designs available means that there are many that are perfect for decorating in miniature. Look for a dealer in rubber stamps, and spend a few hours browsing their wares. You are sure to find stamps to meet your needs. As with stencils, rubber stamps can be used to produce a single design element or several stamps can be used to produce an elaborate design or one or several stamps can be used to fill an entire wall with colour. Create your own wallpaper, decorate lampshades, use one stamp to coordinate a whole room – bedspread, lampshades, window shades, rug, pillows, quilts, tiles, furniture backs, drapes, etc.

You will need:

- Rubber stamps can be purchased or cut from erasers.
 - Stamp pads (there are many sizes, shapes and colours, plain and multicoloured, permanent ink and pigment types, to be had).
 - Item suitable for stamping (paper, fabric, metal, wood, painted surfaces, leather, clay, plaster, Fimo, Sculpey).
1. Make sure the item to be stamped is clean and free from grease. If possible, pre-test material to be stamped to make sure the ink pad does not bleed.
 2. Keep ink pad well inked. Press stamp into pad a few times to get an even coat of ink. Each stamp is a bit different, some need more inking than others. Get to know your stamp(s) before starting a project.

- Use even, and not excessive, pressure when stamping. Do not rock stamp. (**TIP:** When changing stamps, clean stamp by blotting on damp paper towel).

Other tips include:

- For multi-coloured designs, colour different sections of the design with felt markers.
- Blank areas in stamped designs may be filled in or designed added to with water colours, coloured pencils or pens.
- A clear fixative will preserve and protect non-permanent inks.
- Look at stamps from all angles to see different ways they can be used.

Member Profile – Lorry Saunders

A meeting with Lorry Saunders in her beautifully designed and laid out miniature workshop is a delightful way to spend an afternoon. Lorry has always had an interest in collecting dolls and bears, making her own soft-sculpture dolls, but she became interested in miniatures almost by accident. More than 30 years ago, her then-teenaged son came home from a summer job with a miniature store that he had build in his spare time. One look was enough, and she was hooked!

Now she spends “oodles and oodles” of time, nearly every day crafting her mini-projects. She has a built-in early warning system, though. When she hasn’t appeared in several hours, XX, her husband of fifty years, comes looking for her to get her to stand up and move around.

An originating member of the St. Albert Dollhouse Miniatures Club, she also joined MEE at an early point in MEE’s history, starting her attendance at the second or third meeting of the club. Both clubs are very important to her, since it was at club workshops that she has learned all of her miniature skills. Lorry cannot imagine not having the clubs to attend, and feels that if both clubs were ever to disappear “I would carry on, but it would be very lonely and dreary to do it on my own, It is the joint sharing of knowledge that makes it fun!”



Lorry typifies herself as mainly a maker of miniatures, although she does do some collecting, including two antique dollhouses that she owns, including a marvellous Triang house that she tripped over at an Edmonton antique auction. The Triang house is furnished with plastic furniture from the same time period. Her favourite thing to make is definitely her birdhouses. So far, she has made 16 of them, and given them away. She very much regrets not taking pictures of each one as she made it, since each one was unique and one of a kind. She believes that with an X-Acto knife, a pair of tweezers and a toothpick, you can make most anything.

Lorry subscribes to all of the available doll house magazines, and loves to travel to see and purchase miniatures. She tries to attend the West Coast Show each year, and made it to

Toronto once. She has also participated in three Nutshell News Tours over the years, covering the mid-Atlantic area (Williamsburg and New York State), New England, and the West Coast (including stops at Seattle, Victoria, Vancouver and Portland).

Lorry prefers the 1:12 scale, although she has worked in some smaller scales. As she says, "You can't play with the small stuff, it's too fragile. I like to rearrange and redecorate my houses as the mood strikes me". Her family and husband are very supportive of her hobby. Lorry shares her love for miniatures especially with her two granddaughters, both of whom have dollhouses. And, as her husband says, "You can overhaul a miniature living room lots cheaper than our full-size living room!" Lorry loves to travel with him, since no matter where they are, her husband goes out of his way to try to find a miniature shop in the neighbourhood that she can visit.



The Bear's House



The Store that started it all



Betty Boop's House

Lorry's best advice for beginning miniaturists is to not be afraid to try something. "It's important that people don't get the idea that they can't do it." Lorry believes that she will never retire from miniatures. In fact, she has told her kids that they will need to "find a really big room at the Shady Rest, because my miniatures are going with me!"



Part of Lorry's Workroom

Happy Easter!

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.