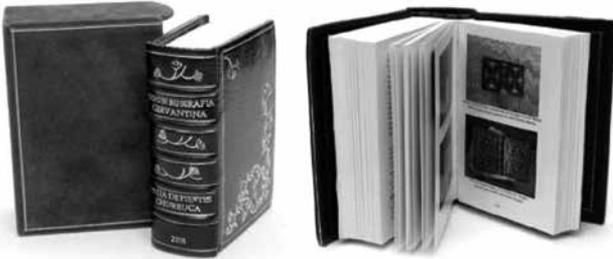


NEWSLETTER

INCORPORATING THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS



2006 Distinguished Book Award Winners:



Microbibliografía Cervantina
Manuel García de Fuentes y Churruga



The Caged
Miyako Akai



The Hound of the Baskervilles
Jan and Jarmila Sobota

2007 Competition

Now Open!

Details on Page 5

From the President

Dear Members,

The Conclave is just around the corner (Oct.), so start thinking about keepsakes, airfare reservations, auction, book fair and great fellowship with our MBS family!

For those of you that are new members, ALL that we do is VOLUNTARY. That means, the host(s), registration people, auction overseers, keepsake giveaways, Executive Board, donate their time, services and handcrafts for the love of the miniature book and the non-profit organization we represent. We LOVE keepsakes! You can make a book (or buy commercially), or donate anything that members can receive in their “goodie bags” at each Conclave.

Past keepsake bags included; pens, pencils (imprint MBS or whatever), rulers, magnifiers, etc., etc. Many people write things about the host city.

I hope to meet many new members at the Conclave! Thank you to NEW MEMBER Lynne Kelly for volunteering as co-host with Julian Edison.

I recall another couple who was “brand new” and she (Barbara), and her husband (Ray), immediately volunteered to help MBS performance to its members and prospective members.

Please don't hesitate to ask questions. The Board is at your service!

Regards,

Eileen

1 877 MBS -1983



Editor's Note

Apologies to almost everyone! My previous e-mail started misbehaving in August, but I was not aware of it so I received mail, but many of my answers did not go out. I am gradually trying to catch up with people (especially those on AOL and Road Runner who received nothing whatever from me). You can use my old e-mail to reach me (jborning@middletownlibrary.org), but I will respond from j-boring@hotmail.com.

Let me echo the President's message—volunteers are cherished creatures even if we don't always seem to give them their due. Many hours go into bringing off a Conclave. Whether you do what seems a simple thing like providing freebies or put heart and soul into judging the awards, we appreciate everything.

If you have not attended a Conclave before, try to make it to this marvelous opportunity. You will meet some delightful people, see some incomparable sights, and have the chance to max out your credit cards on items that will take up very little room in your luggage.

How could you ask for more?

Joan Boring



Michael Garbett finds that EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

I don't know if you can get “Flog It!” on your television screen. It is one of several new programmes that have been spawned by the success of “The Antiques Road Show.” “Treasure In Your Attic” is another one. It has become very popular and can be viewed every day of the week on one channel or another.

The format is very simple. People are filmed bringing their antiques and collectibles to the experts for appraisal and then they are shown later, at the back of an auction room watching their treasures put up for sale.

Every so often the producers make a special programme when they add a visit to a museum or collection, and a while ago they visited me. Tim Sheppard of Lilliput Press showed how he makes his books and then the interviewer began on the collection of miniature books I had laid out. He seemed more interested in the prices they might fetch than the books themselves and I think my irritation began to show. I certainly think that after spending four hours on it, the five man team could have done something rather better than the fifteen minute film that they finally produced. Other people differed however and thought that it was a good advertisement for miniature book collecting and the Studio did pass on a few enquiries from viewers.

The week after it was shown I visited Tetbury, Prince Charles's local town and an antique searcher's delight. I went into the first shop and the owner said, “I saw you on TV last week and you really looked miffed.” He then said that watching the programme reminded him that ages ago he had put a little book at the back of his desk drawer for safe keeping. “Is it any good to you?” he asked, and there in the palm of his hand lay a perfect copy of *Galileo a Madama Christina di Lorena*, printed by the Salmin Brothers in the famous Fly's Eye Type. I began to feel a whole lot better about “Flog It!”

flog it!

Editor's note: For those, like myself, unfamiliar with this little marvel, Walter Hart Blumenthal's *Bookmen's Bedlam: an Olio of Literary Oddities* records it as published in 1896 in Padua. It contained a previously unpublished letter from Galileo written in Italian in 1615 to Madame Christine of Lorraine. The book was 5/8" X 7/16" and contained 208 pages, each with 9 lines of almost 100 letters. Fly's eye type (occhio di morca) is listed as the smallest known font in moveable type with 4000 i's weighing only a pound. It is only legend that the printers went blind setting the type.

I tried a little experimenting with font sizes on the computer. A font size of 3 is legible when printed out in some fonts, Tahoma for example. A font size of 2 is almost legible, but probably because I knew what was written. The logistics of setting a font that small are rather staggering.

Seattle - We Are Coming!

Seattle is shaping up to be a very friendly city. Its interest in books and book arts is broad and deep. There is a Seattle Center for Book Arts (SCBA) and a Book Arts Guild (BAG). There is the Book Club of Washington, in Seattle. We understand there is an outstanding collection of contemporary book arts, many in miniature, at the University of Washington Library. The Seattle Used Bookstore Guide lists over 50 bookshops in the area!

The 18th Annual Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair and Book Arts Show will be held during the same days we are there (October 12-14). Actually the Fair will be held on Saturday and Sunday at the Seattle Convention Center.

You can see that interest and excitement are rising!

Our Conclave, the 25th, now has a co-host. We are very pleased that Lynne Kelly, a new MBS member who lives in the area, has agreed to be co-host with me. As was mentioned in an email to MBS members whose address Kathy King, MBS Treasurer, has on file, Lynne has been interested in the book arts for 15 years and is very connected to the book world in Seattle. Her energy and enthusiasm have already been working on Conclave planning.

Lynne works as a legal Nurse consultant who helps defend medical practitioners in lawsuits. Her professional website is RNhelp.com. She has many other interests and lives outside of Seattle city center.

The University of Washington Library has a special collections division that is renowned. Sandra Kroupa is the long time Book Arts and Rare Book Curator of its Book Arts collection. Here is an excerpt from their website (log on: Washington University Book Arts Collection):

“The Book Arts Collection includes over 14,000 pieces, both historical and modern, encompassing all aspects of the physical book: bookbinding, typography, papermaking, letterpress and offset printing, illustration, book design, paper decoration, calligraphy and artist’s books. Although there are distinct areas of specialty in both theme and form, the field covered broadly; about half the Collection is 20th and now 21st Century.”



Seattle Convention Center



University of Washington Library

As for the Conclave organization planning thus far:

- We are close to an agreement with a well-located hotel at a very reasonable cost. Details will be given in the next MBS Newsletter. Lynne Kelly and I are working on catering and other matters.
- We have speakers for the Sunday night Banquet, with slides!
- Awards are being handled by Jan Kellett and Eileen Cummings.
- Competition exhibit and announcement of winners: Neale Albert.
- Auctions: Janet Becker is doing the catalogue listing (it is not too early to send her your books for auction to benefit the MBS). Stephen Byrne has volunteered to handle the silent auction, and Father Curran has agreed to return with all his wit & humor to be the auctioneer.
- Registration: Stephen Byrne has volunteered to organize.
- Keepsakes: Ed Hoyenski (not too early to send him items of interest).
- Book Sale organized for Sunday: Lynne Kelly and me.
- Events and program planning, and transportation as necessary: Lynne Kelly and me.
- Finances: Kathy King and me.
- “Official” photographer: Ray Williamson.

Suggestions on any aspects of the Conclave and its planning are always welcome by your co-hosts Lynne and me. Hope to see you all in Seattle!

Julian I. Edison

Call for Entries—2007 Miniature Book Competition and Exhibition

Deadline for submission: May 15

Rules and entry forms available at www.mbs.org/comp.htm or by mail with a stamped self-addressed business-size envelope from:

Neale M. Albert, Chair, Book Exhibition Committee
815 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Reminders: Entries, including containers, must be no more than 3 inches in any dimension, be part of a multiple edition, and have been published within the last 2 years. A maximum of 2 entries per person and/or press. The competition is open to all—members and non-members.

The three Distinguished Book Award winners will be announced at the MBS Conclave in Seattle and become the property of the Society. They will be featured in the color Exhibition Catalog and as the centerpiece of the Traveling Exhibition. All entries will travel for one year and you may elect to have your book returned after that time if is not one of the 3 Distinguished Book Award winners.

Russian Miniature Books displayed at the Taipei International Book Exhibition 2007

(January 30 – February 4)



Kostyuk display

Yaroslav Kostyuk, collector from Moscow, exhibited a part of his miniature book collection in Taiwan. (He has about 3,000 miniature books under 100 mm or 4 inches.) The display consisted of books published in the Russian Federation during 1991-2007, displayed in three cases.

The case “Classics and Modern in Miniature” contained 62 miniature books including foreign and domestic poets, prosaists

and artists - Rafael, Leonardo da Vinci, Rembrandt, W. Shakespeare, Ch. Baudelaire, F. Schiller, F. Lorka, A. Mickiewicz, R. Akutagava, A. Pushkin, M. Lermontov, F. Tyutchev, L. Ukrainka, T. Shevchenko, M. Vruble, I. Bunin, I. Annenskiy, A. Blok, V. Shukshin, M. Tsvetaeva and others were presented, in the language of the original and in translations into Russian.

A 2006 novelty, *Sayings by Confucius*, with the text parallel in Chinese and Russian and with colored illustrations attracted attention. Other interesting editions were devoted to Russian history (*The State Emblem of Russia*, *The Constitution of the Russian Federation*) and to the history of Moscow, and to other cities of the Russian Federation. Some are devoted to theorists and the mastery of outer space: K.E.Tsiolkovskiy, A.L.Chizhevskiy and S.P.Korolev.

The newest book, issued in January 2007, is an excellent miniature photo album *S.P.Korolev. From birth to the 100-anniversary*. The book was published for the Rocket-Space Corporation “Energy” by Akademizdatsentr “Nauka”. As it is says in the annotation: “for the large circle of the readers and specialists dedicated to cosmonautics, and also for the collectors of miniature books”.

The case “Art of Book Binding” with 41 books seemed the most entertaining. There were works of Russian masters bound in various materials, in traditional form (leather, birch bark, velvet, brocade, sewing with golden string, river pearls, beads) and modern (balakron, leatherette, varnish miniature, photo on plastic, various metal cover plates). As a rule, such books in the author’s binding exist only in one copy and they charmed many visitors!

The case “Microbooks of Russia” contained 27 books, including 21 microbooks that are less than 10 mm or 1/4 inch. These have been published in editions of several hundred or, more frequently, multiples of ten, basically for the demonstration of polygraphy potential or skill of manufacturers/bookbinders. The rarest books were two ultramicrobooks no larger than 1 mm! The first, the story of the Russian writer A.P.Chekhov *Chameleon*, on



Confucius in Russian and Chinese

30 pages, 0.9 x 0.9 mm! It was made in 1996 by Anatoliy Konenko from Omsk. Until today precisely this book is registered in “The Guinness Book of World Records.” In 2006 A.Konenko made two new ultramicro books sized 0.8 x 0.8 mm! The Russian-language variant is *ALPHABET* (Russian alphabet) and consists of 11 sheets. The other variant is *ABC* (Latin alphabet) and consists of 9 sheets. The print runs of these books are unknown, and the record itself still requires official acknowledgement.

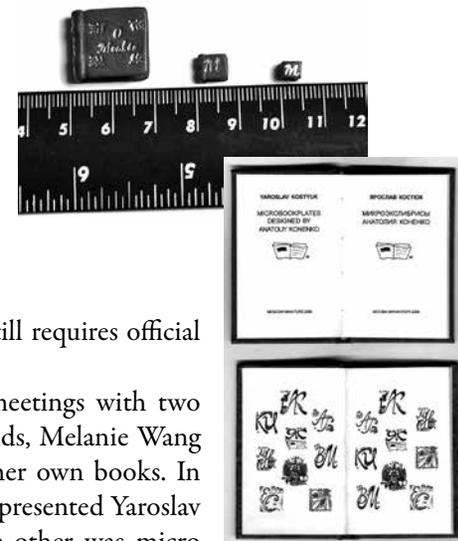
During the exhibition, Yaroslav had meetings with two local miniature-painters. At one of the stands, Melanie Wang from Taipei demonstrated the making of her own books. In exchange for a Russian miniature book, she presented Yaroslav with a book made especially for him. The other was micro miniaturist Chen Forng Shean. He has created an unusual and



Yaroslav and Melanie Wang

rare museum, consisting of more than 100 micro miniatures, on the second floor of his house. There are several microbooks in Chinese, Japanese, English, German and French. This museum was little-known even to journalists in Taiwan! The meeting ended in an exchange of microbooks.

Among the guests to the exposition were the Vice-President and the Premier of Taiwan, ministers, students, parents with children -- all those interested in Russian culture. The representatives of the Russian-language Diaspora, who learn and work in Taiwan, were warmly welcomed at our exhibition.



Microbooks pictured above listed below¹



Cheng Forng Shean with Yaroslav

¹The Microbooks are: Top with ruler, *About Moscow*; below, Yaroslav’s publication *Microbookplates Designed by Anatoliy Konenko*.

Publishing Miniature Books, Pt. 2

by Robert F. Hanson

Continuing the reprint of Hanson's 1994 article with its still valid suggestions and addressing the final challenge in publishing tiny tomes—sales and distribution:

Pricing

Let us assume that the miniature book has been printed and bound, and is now ready to be priced. If the publisher sub-contracts the various phases of production, i.e., typesetting by computer, printing by offset, purchase of the artwork and manual binding, then these costs must be totaled first. Add to this sub-total any advertising or promotion costs as well as postage costs—if pre-paid postage is to be part of the total book price. Finally, the publisher should add a percentage to cover his overhead and personal labor. (It should be stated, though, that most publishers do not add their own labor to the book price since the final price would be more than the “traffic will bear.”) The total cost is then divided by the number of copies published to arrive at a unit cost.

Distribution

The next point to consider is the distribution of the newly published miniature book. Probably, the best distribution network is that used by Running Press because its books are in every bookstore that I enter no matter what state in the United States! But those books are in a different class than the books our colleagues produce. Following are some questions:

- * Will the book be sold only by direct mail? Is there a current mailing list that could be used? Probably the easiest list to use is the Miniature Book Society membership directory. Additionally, the publisher may have another list which is composed of special category buyers—cat-lovers, for instance.
- * Will the book be sold or consigned to a bookseller? Dawson's Book Shop and Bromer Booksellers come readily to mind, as does the Miniature Book Oval Saloon in Japan and Johan Souverein and The Catharijne Press in Holland. If so, how many copies will you send them and at what discount? Will the books be returned to the publisher if unsold or will a higher discount prevent that action? Major large-book publishers usually offer a 40% discount (to booksellers) for 5 or more copies. And they usually offer a 50% discount for a “no returns” policy.

Some publishers offer a 10% discount to long-time book collector customers, however, I doubt if the publishers of miniature books have a standard discount policy for booksellers or book collectors. No doubt, each publisher goes his or her own way. Obviously, if the publisher gets enough to meet the break even point he or she is ecstatic!

- * Another sales outlet is the annual meeting of the Miniature Book Society whose book fair is a delight to both publisher and collector. Having

participated in book fairs selling both large books and miniature books I am here to tell you the shoebox is the one to take!

- * Another detail to ponder, which goes hand-in-hand with distribution, is how and where the miniature book will be advertised and promoted.

The two journals in the miniature book field that accept advertising are THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE and THE MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER. Rates vary with each publication. Then, too, some publishers create their own advertising or promotional pieces (some are creative postcards, while others are more elaborate) and send them to their list names of past and potential book buyers. In the past, I have tried advertising in huge circulation periodicals such as: YANKEE magazine and WOMAN'S DAY, but I was quickly discouraged by the high cost and the extremely low return. However, the special interest publications might be worthy of the time and postage to contact them.

For example, the cat-lover magazines and the miniature horse journals would be interested in miniature books about cats or tiny horses. Further, any of the author collecting societies would be worth a try—there are many Shakespeare clubs as well as John Steinbeck, Jack London and Hemingway groups. Buy or borrow a current copy of WRITER'S MARKET to find hundreds of special category periodicals in which to advertise the miniature book. By the same token, the publisher should check in the public library to use the Gale Research Co. reference book on organizations. There are numerous professional and non-professional societies in those huge volumes.

Finally, do continue to publish new miniature books whether it be your first or the next in a series. Why not see if you can pass the 100 mark reached by Msgr. Frank Weber? Do retain a backlist of titles published because they may sell in a year or two. And don't be discouraged if the entire edition is unsold after a week or two. Remember, if the publisher breaks even on the costs it's cause for a celebration!



Ljubljana, Slovenia:

Globe-trotting Caroline Lindemann lunched with Martin Znidarsic in his hometown while touring Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia. Martin has been able to attend several previous Conclaves including Glasgow and Toronto.

In Memoriam **Valentine Poska 1918-2006**

Once he discovered miniature books and the Miniature Book Society, long-time librarian Val Poska entered wholeheartedly into collecting and publishing. He was an editor for the Newsletter and hosted the 1988 Conclave in San Antonio.

A generous contributor to the MBS auctions, he donated one of his proudest possessions, a thank you letter from first lady Laura Bush for a copy of his miniature biography of Fred Gipson, the author of *Old Yeller*. This, along with a copy of the book, was a highlight of the Conclave auction in New Orleans in 2005.

In 1995 he received the Glasgow Cup, in 2000 the Anderson-Yarnell Award, and in 2004 the Norman W. Fargue Award.

Regrettably we have lost a number of members recently, but I have only dates for the others:

Don Brady Dec. 16, 2006

Rob Schoonover Dec. 26, 2006 (Founding member)

Grace Broecker Feb. 3, 2007

New Publications

Butterflies Fly by Jill Timm.

Mystical Places Press. Handmade paper in 3 alternating signatures with real stamps. Under 3 inches, available with slipcase. (See advert.)

The Magic of Kate Greenaway

by Suzanne Pruchnicki. The Bronte Press. A tribute with eight original illustrations hand colored. Under 3 inches, bound over boards. Ed. of 40.

New Catalogues

Bradbury: No. 36, February 2007

Worcester, MA (with Collecting Miniature Books, No. 14.)

Michael Garbett: Antiquarian & Fine Books, Catalogue 26

February 2007

Exhibits

Naples (FL) Museum of Art continues

Masters of Miniature, which includes The Pistner House through June 30, 2007. Details at www.thephil.org

XII. International Triennial Show of Art Bookbinding. In the main building of The National Museum of Prague. Feb. 9 to May 6, 2007. Details at www.nm.cz

New York City, Grolier Club. Miniature books display in connection with the publication of a history of the miniature book by Anne C. Bromer and Julian Edison (see MBN article, this issue). May 16 to July 28, 2007.

Conclave reminders:

Send freebies to:

Edward Hoyenski, 308 Normal #16
Denton, TX 76201

Send auction donations to:

Janet Becker, 1700 Dix Road
Middletown, OH 45042

MINIATURE BOOK NEWS

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

BIG BOOK and an EXHIBIT to arrive May, 2007

Two noteworthy events are coming up. We begin with the publication of the first comprehensive, color-illustrated book about miniature books since Louis W. Bondy's book on the subject in 1981.

Miniature Books -- 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures, published by Harry N. Abrams in association with the Grolier Club, both of New York, is due to be delivered to bookstores in May.

The second event is an extensive exhibition of miniature books at the Grolier Club to open to the public on May 16 and continue through July 28, 2007.

Authored by Anne C. Bromer and Julian I. Edison, this big book about small books contains 216 pages and over 300 color photographs, virtually all of them actual size. A limited, deluxe edition is also planned which will include the large book together with a complete miniature facsimile, both housed in a joint slip-case.

The back wrap of the book's dust jacket gives some background:

"Did you know these facts?"

- A miniature book flew to the moon and back.
- A miniature scroll is the first printing on paper in the world.
- The Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln was first printed in book form as a miniature.
- President Franklin D. Roosevelt

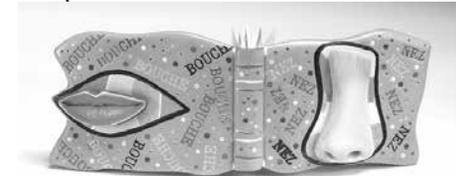
collected miniature books.

- A miniature book caused a decline in the British birthrate in the nineteenth century."

"The variety of subjects that appear between these tiny covers is as diverse as that found in full-size books. Why would the world's literature, art, and history

be published in miniature? Portability and accessibility are two easy answers, but there are also compelling reasons for printers, artists, and binders to create intriguing volumes in a scaled-down size, and for collectors to possess these intricate and aesthetically pleasing objects."

"This is the first lavishly illustrated, authoritative volume on the delightful subject of books no taller than 3 inches. Its dazzling array is shown—with few exceptions—at actual size. Here is the



A shaped, three-dimensional binding by a French couple who design and create humorous and sculptural images in leather.



prayer book that Anne Boleyn carried to her execution, seen open to its sole illustration, a portrait of Henry VIII. Here also are the world's two smallest books (impossible to be sure which is tinier). There are books studded with gemstones, books that Napoleon carried with him on his campaigns, books illustrated by artists such as Picasso, Miró, and Edward Gorey. One section deals with papers, printing, and binding used in these tiny marvels. Filled with great stories and fascinating people, it speaks not only to the experienced collector, but also to the one just starting out and to anyone who loves the look and feel of a good book."

Several years ago Anne and I, separately, felt a need to introduce the subject of miniature books to the wider world. Bondy's history was published in London over 25 years ago. It is still the



Two pages from a sixteenth century French Book of Hours, only two inches in height.

key reference book about which anyone seriously interested in the topic should be familiar. Bondy traces miniature books back to printed incunabula in the fifteenth century, but does not include manuscript books. There is only one picture in color. Most of the illustrations came from the sale and catalogue of the Arthur Houghton collection which was disbursed at Christies auction house in London in 1979.

Here are the key reference books and publications in the field, up to the present day, in chronological order. Place published or author are noted:

- *The News-Letters of the LXIVMOS*. Henderson. Boston and elsewhere, 1920-1929.
- *The Miniature BOOK COLLECTOR*. Ruth Adomeit, 1960-1962.
- *Catalogue of the library of Miniature Books, collected by Percy Edwin Spielmann*. London, 1961.
- *Miniature Book News (MBN)*. Julian I. Edison, 1965-present.
- *Three Centuries of Thumb Bibles, A Checklist*. Ruth Adomeit. 1980.
- *Miniature Books, Their History from the beginnings to the present day*. Louis W. Bondy, London, 1981.



A manuscript Koran in a fine lacquered binding with roses, together with its engraved steel case and ribbon for carrying.

- *The History of Miniature Books*. Doris Welsh, 1987.
- *A Bibliography of Miniature Books (1470-1965)*. Doris Welsh, 1989.
- *Twentieth Century United States Miniature Books*. Robert C. Bradbury, 2000.
- *Antique United States Miniature Books, 1690-1900*. Robert C. Bradbury, 2001.

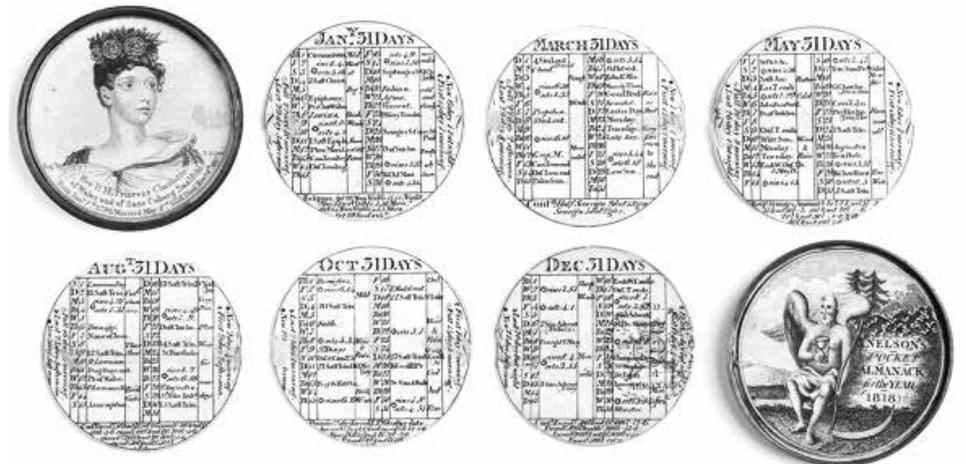
MBN issue 112, April, 2002 has a discussion of these and other important bibliographical references. Kalman L. Levitan, the first president of the Miniature Book Society, published a book, *In Search of Miniature Books*, in 1985, which is an exhaustive listing of references pertaining to miniature books up to that date.



Miniature book from the library of Franklin Roosevelt.



An eighteenth century French thumb bible, showing a scene of Jonah and the Whale.



Highly unusual English almanac in a round shape.



Books of Common Prayer with embossed hallmarked silver covers showing various religious scenes and floral patterns were popular at the end of the Victorian period.

Anne and I began to think about how to organize a book that could appeal both to the scholar and to the public. What we have tried to do is edit a book with historical perspective together with various themes and anecdotes that would include fabulous color photographs.

We continued to grapple with the issues involved: what topics to include or exclude. At the same time we wanted to find a publisher of high quality that would be interested. Through some personal contacts we were able to find an experienced and capable editor at Harry N. Abrams who was intrigued with the unusual topic.

While we were thinking about a book, the Chair of the Exhibitions Committee of the Grolier Club, where I am a member, suggested that the club might be interested in mounting a large exhibition provided the display would be dealt with in a comprehensive and definitive manner. A

proposal was made and accepted. Because of exhibitions already planned far into the future, a 2007 date was selected.

We immediately realized that a book plus an exhibition at a proper venue would provide an excellent combination and platform to present the genre to a world audience. Harry N. Abrams is one of the country's premier publishers of art and illustrated books. And the Grolier Club is the top spot for book history and related arts.

The Grolier Club has a long history with miniature books. An excerpt from the book, *Lasting Impressions: The Grolier Club Library*, published by the Club in 2004, stated: "On an upper floor of the Grolier Club hangs a glass case containing some of the Library's collection of miniature books. In terms of "lasting impressions," it is arguably the most striking --- certainly the most popular --- object we possess. The original collection and its specially made case were donated by the son of Grolier member Samuel Putnam Avery (1822 - 1904), a gift marked by the Club with the publication of *A Short list of microscopic books in the Library of the Grolier Club mostly presented by Samuel P. Avery.*"

There were 176 books donated at the time, and the Club continues to augment this collection.

Miniature Books -- 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures has nine chapters plus index and reference section.

The book is being published in association with the Grolier Club but it is not a catalogue of the exhibition. Each part stands on its own. While the book forms the basis for the exhibition there are miniature books pictured and described in the book that are not in the exhibition,

and vice versa.

In 2005 the Houghton Library at Harvard exhibited miniature books mostly from my collection. These books were arranged basically in historical sequence beginning with manuscripts in the middle ages and ending with contemporary examples. The Eleven segments of that show were entitled:

1. Manuscripts and Books before Printing.
2. Early printed Books.
3. Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Books before World War II.
4. World War II to the Present.
5. Children's Books.
6. Religious Books and Thumb Bibles.
7. Almanacs and Calendars.
8. Tiny Type.
9. Smallest Books.
10. Bindings.
11. Special, Unusual, Odd, and Contemporary Books.

The book takes a more thematic perspective and condenses the overall categories somewhat. The nine chapters are (lower case text for chapter headings was deliberately used for a sleek design):

1. illuminated manuscripts
2. the art of the book
3. drops of heavenly dew
4. almanacs for daily living
5. the smallest books
6. books for the young
7. presidents, politics, and propaganda
8. life's pleasures
9. Curiosities and The Book as Object

Several of the chapters have sub-topics, such as Papermaking, Eating, Drinking and Smoking. Interspersed

are about a dozen "sidebars", or text and photos of focused interest, such as the Anne Boleyn Gold Book and the School of Paris showing books with original Picasso and Miro engravings.

The Grolier exhibition, on the other hand, combines the historical and thematic perspectives into 12 categories:

1. Manuscripts
2. Early Printed Books
3. Nineteenth and twentieth century to World War II
4. World War II to the present
5. Religious books
6. Almanacs
7. Children's books
8. Art of the Book
9. Presidents, Politics, and Propaganda
10. The Smallest Books
11. Life's Pleasures
12. Oddities and Books as Art

The Book, *Miniature Books -- 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures*, is expected to be available in May. And the exhibition, with the same title, opens to the public on May 16 and continues to July 28.

Members of the Miniature Book Society and guests are welcome to attend the opening of the exhibition on Tuesday, May 15, 2007, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York, 10022. No RSVP is required and business attire is requested.

Interspersed with this article are photographs of some highlights that will be on display in the exhibit.



Boston Public Library Lecture and Exhibition

The Boston Public Library, situated in beautiful Copley Square, will be the host for an inaugural lecture by Anne Bromer on May 1 about the forthcoming book, *Miniature Books -- 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures*. The lecture and exhibit are free and open to the public, and of course any members of the MBS and guests are welcome as well.

Here are excerpts from Anne's report about this event:

"I am speaking at the invitation of the President of the Library, Bernard Margolis, at 6pm. in the beautiful Abbey Room in the original McKim Building of the Library. In this room, the walls are lined with murals by Edwin Austin Abbey, which illustrate the Arthurian legend of "The Quest of the Holy Grail." The beamed ceiling is modeled after the one in the library of the Doge's Palace in Venice.

"My talk will be about forty minutes in length with power point slides to illustrate it. The approximately fifty images I am using are taken from our book. There will be time for Q&A after the talk. Barnes & Noble will provide copies of the book, which will be available for purchase, and I will be available to sign copies. At the signing table, I will have a miniature bookcase with examples of miniature books which attendees will have an opportunity to examine. Although these books are from our stock, they will not be available for sale at the Library that evening. They will be there for the opportunity to experience the pleasure of handling miniature books.

"In conjunction with the talk, an exhibition of miniature books will be mounted in six cases outside the Abbey Room beneath the murals by Pierre Puvis de Chavannes,

which adorn the walls at the top of the grand staircase and second floor galleries. The exhibit will consist of miniature books from the Library's collection and other lenders, including two Babylonian clay tablets, the smallest illuminated manuscript of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, the Bryce chained Bible in an original box, and a complete set of the Bryce Shakespeare bound in red suede with its swivel wooden bookcase. A copy of La Sainte Bible, modern designer bindings by Michael Wilcox and other highlights illustrated in our book also will be on view."

The exhibition begins on April 30 and continues to June 30.



Anne Bromer.

100 Top Collectors Who Are Making a Difference

Art and Antiques magazine in its March, 2007 issue had an article by Roberta S. Maneker entitled "100 Top Collectors Who Are Making a Difference." Here is the beginning of the article:

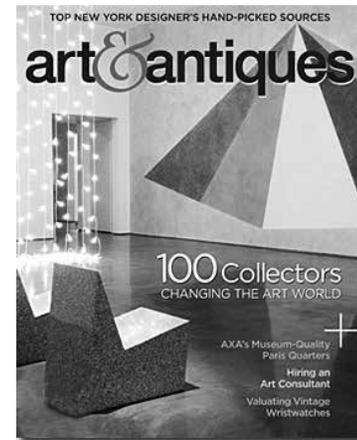
"The passion to collect can assume many forms. During a year of researching collections and talking to their owners, A & A staff followed leads far beyond the expected categories of paintings, sculpture, photography and design objects. We found collections of antique canes, Turkmen textiles, automobiles, miniature books, naval warship memorabilia and the printed word as art. The collectors, too, are a varied group: investment bankers, executives, psychologists, automobile dealers, actors.

"Diverse as they are, our 100 Top Collectors share one trait --- generosity. In some way, each of them offers something back to their community or to the larger world of the arts..."

We were surprised but pleased to have been one of those selected for this article. Here is what the section about me had to say:

Julian I. Edison
ST. LOUIS
MINIATURE BOOKS

Books the size of a playing card, a postage stamp or your thumbnail have beguiled Julian Edison since his college days. Today he has a library of many thousands of these remarkable miniatures spanning 4,000 years, almost all 3 inches high or smaller, which fill bookshelves in his library. Some might be hard to see: His smallest book is less than 1 millimeter high, printed by the Tokyo-based Toppan Printing Company in 2000. "Miniature books have been produced for reasons of practicality, curiosity and aesthetics," he says. "Many people think of these as novelties which can't be read, and for the most part nothing could be further from the truth. Most of them don't require a magnifying glass to be read. The type size and the size of the book don't necessarily correspond." Harvard's Houghton Library held an exhibition of highlights from the collection in 2005. This spring, the Grolier Club in New York will hold an exhibition of highlights from it, to coincide with the publication of *Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures* (Harry N. Abrams Inc.), which Edison co-edited with Boston rare book dealer Anne C. Bromer. "Bringing knowledge of this segment of book publishing to the larger world is, I hope, our tiny contribution to the world's culture," Edison says.



Changeabouts

New Members:

Miyako Akai
Tomihama 3-7-7-3
Ichikawa City, Chiba
272-0115 JAPAN
81-47-307-0860 (h)
am@miobox.jp

Escribiente Association
New Mexico Society of Calligraphers
P.O. Box 30166
Albuquerque, NM 87190-0166
Brotherbill55@hotmail.com

Evie Groves
64 Tankerton Road
Whitstable, Kent CT5 2AF
ENGLAND

Lynne Kelly
PO Box 867
Gold Bar, WA 98251
425-894-8197 (h)
blynnkelly@msn.com

George Kirkpatrick
54 St. Martins Hill
Canterbury, Kent CT1 1PS
ENGLAND

Beverly Mehlhoff
5590 Ora Street
San Jose, CA 95129
408-446-0730
bmehlhoff@guidant.com

Terry & Anne Neville
Dateman Books
16 Saint Bridges Close
Kewstoke, Weston-Super-Mare
Somerset ENGLAND BS22 9UN
(+44) 1934 632995 (h)
Dateman46@yahoo.com

Maryann J. Riker
145 N. Riverview Road
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865
908-213-1036 (h)
Maryann-riker@hotmail.com

Alma B. Sanderson
1807 Washington St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-265-0015 (h)

Scad-Atlanta Library
Savannah College of Art & Design
1600 Peachtree St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30309-2403

Address Changeabouts:

Kathy Hurley Ackaret
5630 Wild Goose Way
Meridian, ID 83464

Patrice Baldwin
4237 N. Rio Cancion, Apt. 123
Tucson, AZ 85718
520-577-5511 (h)

Sherry Barber
17 Stonebriar Way
Frisco, TX 75034

Rev. Peter Routhier
Roman Catholic Diocese
P.O. Box 489
Burlington, VT 05402-0489
802-658-6110 (o)

Email Changeabouts:

Debbie Allen
Allen200079@bellsouth.net

Joan Boring
j-boring@hotmail.com

Mrs. Marshall Cannell
vdevc@aol.com

Paul & Mary Devenyi
paulmaryd@rogers.com

Horace L. Dodd
ddd8373@cox.net

Polly Eaton
pceaton@verizon.net

Carol Erickson
caroleliz11@nsn.com

Nancy A. Fiumera
nfiumera@sbcglobal.net

Gabrielle Fox
Gabrielle@gabriellefox.com

Ellen Franken
frankenaf@tx.rr.com

Michael Garbett
garbett469@btinternet.com

Vladimir Ilyin
n.mel@inbox.lv

Yaroslav Kostyuk
yaroslav@mtr.ru

Bernadette Prue
riversong-rtgal1@sbcglobal.net

Karen E. Roehr
karen-roehr@uml.edu

University of North Texas Libraries
choyenski@library.unt.edu

Telephone Changeabouts:

Polly Eaton
239-352-8325 (h)

Robert F. Orr Hanson
505-271-0394 (h)

Judith Howard
562-692-0665 (o)

Judy A. Kelly
330-995-1583 (o)
330-463-3565 (f)

Karen E. Roehr
978-934-3586 (o)

Henk Zootjes
070-3652083 (f)

Web Page Changeabouts:

Sherry Barber, Stone Manor Press
www.stonemanorpress.com

Catherine Burkland
Books'n Letters Studio
www.booksandletters.com

Majorie Coffey
Coffey Grounds Press
www.paperworks.info

Gabrielle Fox
www.GabrielleFox.com

Vladimir Ilyin
http://www.vladimirilyin-riga.narod.ru

Carol Anne & Harout Kouyoumdjian
www.antikhuset.com

University of North Texas Libraries
www.library.unt.edu/rarebooks

Name & Address Changeabout:

Verlagsgesellschaft Miniaturbuch Ohg
has changed their name and address:

Miniaturbuchverlag Leipzig
Wastelsteiner GmbH
Isarweg 2 c
Neufahrn/Mintraching
D-85375 GERMANY
011-49-89-832265 (h)

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
(513) 594-7395 (h)
(513) 424-1251 (o)
jboring@middletownlibrary.org

*Mail payments for ads
(in \$ US dollars) to:*

Kathy King
402 York Avenue
Delaware, OH 43015, USA

Miniature Book Society Newsletter

A quarterly publication of the Miniature Book Society Inc. Number 74

Issued in January, April, July and October. Items for publication, including advertising material should be sent to the Editor. Publication deadlines are: March 1, June 1, September 1, December 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 2006-2007

President: Eileen Cummings
Vice-President: Julian Edison
Secretary: Janet King
Treasurer: Kathy King
Past President: Neale Albert

Members at-large:

Stephen Byrne
Edward Hoyenski
Philip Morrison
Mark Palkovic

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:

Kathy King, Treasurer
402 York Avenue
Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 369-5517
Kking@midohio.net

Newsletter Editor:

Joan Boring
3204 Wildwood Road
Middletown, OH 45042
(513) 594-7395
j-boring@hotmail.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: June 1, 2007.

Printed by:
Alliance Printing & Mailing Services, Middletown, OH USA
Design: Jason Fiscus

Hold this bright little book in your hand and feel the flutter of butterflies the world around.



Butterflies Fly is made of 3 alternating signatures of bright multihued handmade paper with real worldwide stamps sewn onto an accordion folded center and thermal embossed butterflies on paper slip case and book cover. Handcrafted by Jill Timm, 2.375" x 2.875" with 56 pages, edition of 100. With paper sleeve, \$70, add the deluxe slipcase, \$95, postpaid.

Mystical Places Press, 1400 Central Ave. #107, Wenatchee, WA 89901-1499

See more books at www.mysticalplaces.com

Miniature Books

*From the Collection of
James F. DeLancey*

Catalogue 37, May 2007

\$15. postpaid

Illustrated catalogue offering more than 500 antiquarian
and private press books under three inches

Robert C. Bradury
Miniature Books
879 Pleasant Street
Worcester, MA 01602

rbminibks@aol.com

Member, Massachusetts and Rhode Island Antiquarian Booksellers