



ALMOT MINI NEWS
ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS
NAME REGION E-2 NEWSLETTER
VOLUME # 108 ISSUE # 001 APRIL 2026



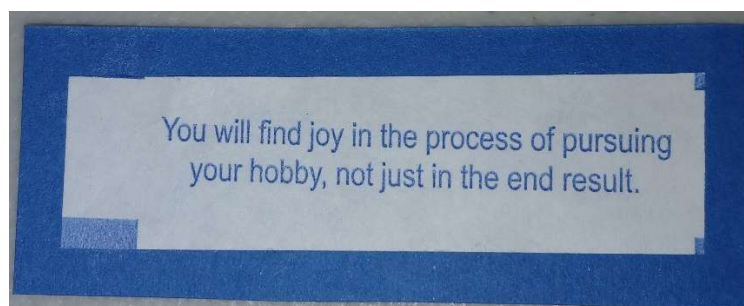
Regional Coordinator News

The Texas Miniature Showcase (www.texasminiatureshowcase.us) will be held May 28-31 in Dallas TX. Registration is open. There are pre- and post-show classes, exhibits, auctions, and a salesroom full of wonderful dealers. And for the second year, the **NAME Open House** will be held just hours before the Preview at 2pm on Friday, May 29. One of the free make-n-takes will be provided by Volker Arnold from Germany, but quantities are limited! We will have grab bags to purchase at various price levels this year! So, plan to arrive early and stop by to enjoy all the fun and meet other miniaturists. It's free and all are welcome, not just NAME members, so bring your friends. I look forward to seeing you there!

Though outside our region, I hope there will be many E2 members attending the 2026 California Dreaming National Convention in July. The steering committee is looking for donations to help make the convention a big success: tote bags favors, garage sales items, auction items, Houseparty Helpers, or even money (contact kim@miniatures.org about monetary donations). Visit <https://miniatures.org/26Cal> to get all the details. Whether you are attending or not able, individual or club donations will be greatly appreciated! But it's not too late to register and make plans to join hundreds of like-minded miniaturists in a week of mini fun! I hope to meet you there! -Suzie Aguilar, RC Liaison (for Amy Burgess, E2 RC)

Mini Fun!

Do the fortune cookie gods know all of us miniaturists, or what???



NAME Region E-2 Calendar of Events

April 15-May1, 2026. NAME Board Election Voting, Electronic Voting via email.

May 29-31, 2026. Texas Miniature Showcase, 4099 Valley View Lane, Dallas, TX
Texas Miniature Showcase is an annual show of dollhouse scaled furniture and accessories with classes, sales, NAME Open House and exhibits. Silent and Live Auctions on Saturday!
Contact: info@texasminiatureshowcase.us

May 29, 2026. 3-5pm NAME Open House, Dallas, TX located at the Texas Miniature Showcase in the Cypress Room. Free make-n-takes. Grab bags for sale. Free admission for all! Contact: suzie.aquilar@yahoo.com

Jul 23-26, 2026. NAME National Convention, LaQuinta, CA
Contact: <https://miniatures.org/26Cal>

October 3, 2026, NAME Day. Time to Relax. See pages 10-11 of Jan/Feb Miniature Gazette and page 20 of Mar/Apri Miniature Gazette. Contact: Beth Grabau greta@alumni.iastate.edu

September 11-13, 2026, Killeen, TX. SAM WWW 2026. Mardi Gras theme.
Contact: Carey Miller careybryant@hotmail.com

Aug 12-15, 2027, NAME National Convention, Louisville, KY, GLAMPING Project

Groundhog Day!

How many of you participated in the FREE tutorial from NAME by Debbie Colombo on their website create.miniatures.org ? I jumped at the chance to make this Groundhog Day scene and present it to my husband on his birthday February 2nd, aka Groundhog Day! He even participated by cutting the log for me (he didn't question why) and my friend Mickey got her husband, Doug, to cut the round base. All I had to do was print, assemble and paint the groundhog. I didn't know the log/stump would have a hole in the top, but it was perfect for sticking in a Happy Birthday sign. He was very pleased!

- Martha Bates



Region E-2 NAME Clubs

Austin, TX area:

Lone Star Miniaturists Jennifer Gray 512-771-8042

Houston, TX area:

N.U.T.S. Mandy Hebert 713-303-5568

San Antonio, TX area:

Inching Along Kitty Engstrom 281-732-2800

Oklahoma City, OK area:

Shrunken Treasures Sandy Davis 405-623-4780

Quarter Nuts Denise DeCost 405-615-5320

Tulsa, OK area:

Tulsa Miniature Club Sonny Thompson 918-231-9001

NAME Region E-2 Business Members

Making Miniatures in Community, Watauga, TX miniatures-n-community@gmail.com

Miniature Dollhouse Furniture Biz, Greenville, TX
Janet@MiniatureDollhouseFurniture.biz

Samantha Creations, Dallas, TX SamanthaCreations@sbcglabal.net

Texas Miniature Showcase LLC, Red Oak, TX Info@TexasMiniatureShowcase.us

Welcome New & Returning Region E-2 Members

Mandy Stewart

Michele Lacombe

Marc Mead

Pamela MacFarlane

Cindy Lyons

Melissa Hall

Ara Bentley

Lisa Wood

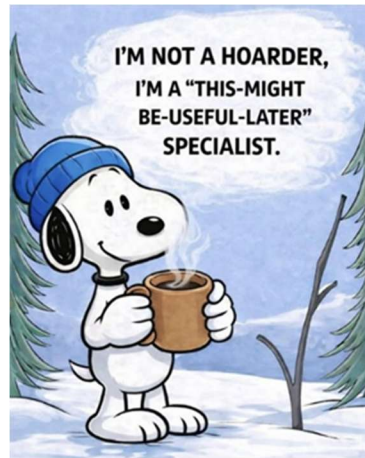
Jessica Church

Kim Priez

Kimberly Marie Louder

Christy Seaton

Mini Joke!



NAME News & Updates

A Community of Miniature Collectors and Builders Sharing Their Ideas and Experiences

New NAME National Convention Table Hostess

Our very own Mandy Hebert from Texas has been named to 1/24th scale Table Hostess for the 2026 NAME National Convention! Congratulations Mandy: let's all wish her the best in this endeavor.



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Always remember to check out the NAME websites

miniatures.org and create.miniatures.org

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CALIFORNIA DREAMING

If you wish to join us in dreaming, there are still openings for full Convention Registration as well two other ways to participate: Day Passes and Public Days. Our 2026 NAME National Convention is in the Coachella Valley near Palm Springs in Southern California. For full Convention Registration, contact Kim at the NAME Office. Pre-Convention and Registered Workshop Registration opened on March 21st with the Evening Workshop/Gala and Theme Luncheon registration opening on March 22nd.

We have more than thirty outstanding Sales Room dealers with names you've likely heard plus dealers new to selling, and many unique exhibits to view.

For the latest, go to <https://miniatures.org/26Cal> or contact: Carol Hodgson at cadreaming2026@yahoo.com or Kim Ash at the NAME Office, kim@miniatures.org.

*Day Passes – opens April 20th

Full Convention registrants have the first opportunities at Workshops, Theme Luncheons; however, opportunities may still be available for these as well as the Wednesday evening Workshop and Gala, Theme Luncheons and Sales Room featuring a wide variety of dealers. Of course there are fellow miniaturists with whom to share ideas.

*Public Days – July 25th and 26th

Our dealers have an array of hand-crafted miniatures and our Exhibits will help inspire your dreams for your next mini creation.

Don't wait any longer for your dreams to come true!

NAME National Convention

La Quinta Resort and Club (a Hilton property)

July 20 – 26, 2026

La Quinta California

-Carol Hodgson

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The Gazette Needs You!

Suzanne O'Connell, the Miniature Gazette Editor, placed an article in the Jan/Feb 2026 issue (pages 36-37) asking for contributions from NAME people for the Gazette. NAME members, clubs, creators, businesses and community leaders are all welcome to help fill the pages of future issues of the Gazette.

As a member of NAME, I sent several pictures and an article about my most treasured dollhouse for the May/June issue (think June brides!). It wasn't difficult to do, just took some pictures with my cell phone and wrote up a brief history of the miniature. Hopefully it will be published in the next issue.

The goal of the Miniature Gazette is to showcase NAME's people, clubs and miniatures and to create a magazine that readers truly look forward to opening. As Suzanne said, "*Your submissions are the heartbeat of that mission*".

Please contact Suzanne at gazette@miniatures.org for information about submitting your article or story.

-Martha Bates

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Are you downsizing? Are you ready to gift some of your loved minis to another devoted miniaturist while benefiting NAME? We are looking for donations for our auctions. If you have miniatures that you would like to re-home, please contact Rhonda Keef at minicollector.com

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Attention TX and MS

We need State Reps for Texas and Mississippi. Who would like to volunteer? It is not a tough job; the main thing you do is contact any members in your state whose NAME membership is expiring and encourage them to renew. Our Editor, Martha Bates, has generously volunteered to send both new State Reps a free gift in their preferred scale, postage paid! How's that for a deal???

If you are interested, please contact Suzie Aguilar at rc liaison@miniatures.org

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2026 Convention Fundraiser

Deck Table & Chairs

Have you purchased your California Dreaming kit yet? This is a fantastic opportunity to support the 2026 Convention, whether you're attending in person or cheering us on from home.

The kit makes a bar-height rattan table and two chairs. It can be used on the deck of a surfer's shack, at a Tiki Bar or on the outside patio of any dollhouse. Just imagine it with a candle in the middle of the table with food and drink for two. Or maybe a tropical flower in the middle of the table instead of the candle. Let your imagination go wild!

Designed by Dia Crissey-Baum, the kit is available in 1" for \$32 and in 1/2" or 1/4" for \$27. While it's perfect for the Wednesday Evening Workshop, it's also a wonderful addition to any project you have in mind!

Order your kit now at <https://miniatures.journeycare.app/2026-fundraiser>

Let's get started with California Dreaming!



2026 Convention Fundraiser
by Dia Crissey-Baum

Whether you're registering to attend the convention and need this for your Wednesday Evening Workshop (Wed Night Project) will be in 1/2" & 1/4" only, or you're supporting from home and want it for a club project or to finish one of your scenes, this is an ideal way to support the 2026 Convention in La Quinta, CA.

The kit will be available in 1", 1/2", and 1/4" scales starting February 1st!
Link to purchase will be at miniatures.org/26Cal.

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS MAY 31ST

This is a kit to make a bar-height rattan table and 2 chairs designed for use on the decks on the surfer's shack, the Wednesday Night Project for California Dreaming Conventions. The design is meant to be a great garage sale find for the project. Table is made with a special webbing and the chairs are meant to look like vintage bar stools. Imagine the surfer's sitting out on the deck after a day of surfing at the beach with their hamburgers or hot dogs, fresh off the grill and a nice tall drink of whatever surfer's drink is perfect for the occasion.

The 1" and 1/2" Tables & Chairs will be made of mat board and the 1/4" Table & Chairs will be made of watercolor paper.

PS I got mine! Awesome Kit! -Martha Bates

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NAME Region E-2 Representatives

RC Liaison, Suzie Aguilar. 832-922-0498. suzie.aguilar@yahoo.com

Regional Coordinator, Amy Burgess. mordana394@gmail.com

Arkansas, Maci Edwards. 479-200-5484. edwards.maci@gmail.com

Louisiana/Editor, Martha Bates. 318-658-2867. marthabates@comcast.net

Mississippi, Seeking Volunteer. Please contact RC Liaison!

Oklahoma, Sandy Davis. 405-623-4780. spdavis1@gmail.com

Texas, Seeking Volunteer. Please contact RC Liaison!

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Please remember to keep NAME updated if you change your mailing address, telephone number or email address. Don't miss out on all the mini fun your NAME membership brings to you!

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Mini Pro Tip

Need a way to light up your miniature displays without wiring every one of them? For less than \$13.00, I purchased, from Amazon, a set of [STAR-SPANGLED 6 Pack 2.8" Motion Sensor Lights Indoor AAA Battery Operated, Stick on LED Puck Light for Stairs, Under Cabinet, Closet, Cool White](#). After installing 3 AAA batteries in each, I peeled off the sticky back and placed them on the underside of the shelf above a miniature. The good news is that they are motion activated, so will not come on unless someone walks by. I liked them so well, I ordered another set a few months later. The lights really make me turn and look at my miniature creation, which makes me smile! -Martha Bates

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Terry's Turkeys Fundraiser

How many of you E-2 peeps participated in this fun project over the holidays? By simply logging into create.miniatures.org, I ordered a 1:24 scale turkey which arrived a few weeks later. It was a plain grey, 3-D little turkey. I was sure I would not be able to make an edible looking turkey! However, by simply following the written instructions (online instructions were available) and using 5 paint colors, I am pleased with the results! Here it is on a white plate, decorated with rosemary sprigs and cranberries. What do you think?

- Martha Bates



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From the Editor

*Please help me make this **YOUR** newsletter. I welcome your submission of articles, pictures, helpful hints and tips, events or any miniature related items within NAME Region E-2. Our Newsletter is a quarterly edition; so cutoff for submissions to ur next Newsletter is July 1, 2026.*