



ALMOT MINI NEWS
ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS
NAME REGION E-2 NEWSLETTER
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Club Spotlight!



The 'Nuther Unusual Tiny Society or '**NUTS** for short is NAME Club C-385 in the Houston/Galveston TX area. We currently have 16 members and are looking for more! We meet on the third Saturday of each month from noon until 2pm but usually keep mini-ing until 4pm. We currently meet at members' homes but are trying out a local library's space since they offer very inexpensive meeting facilities to non-profit clubs! (Check it out in your area!)



We have a Christmas in July meeting each year at which we make small gifts for hospice patients to be given out in December. This was our 16th year.



On the first Saturday in December, we have a Christmas party complete with food and stockings! So much fun!



Our club members love getting together to create, discuss, exhibit, and pretty much anything that pertains to miniatures. We are more of a mini family, not just a club. And we try to live out our club's name in all we do!



We attend NAME Conventions, miniature shows and events, visit hobby stores, and antique malls, and of course, go out to eat together.



If you are in the Houston/Galveston area, we would love to have you visit a meeting and join our club. Check out our Instagram account: [@nuts_mini_club](#). 'NUTS has been a club for 45 years.



We still have one original member, Dorothy Hamilton, who just celebrated her 95th birthday at the beginning of September. She keeps us all young!



Region E-2 NAME Clubs

Austin, TX area:

Lone Star Miniaturists	Stacey Abernethy	610-751-9393
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Houston, TX area:

N.U.T.S.	Mandy Hebert	713-303-5568
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San Antonio, TX area:

Inching Along	Kitty Engstrom	281-732-2800
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Oklahoma City, OK area:

Shrunken Treasures	Sandy Davis	405-623-4780
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Quarter Nuts	Denise DeCost	405-615-5320
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Tulsa, OK area:

Tulsa Miniature Club	Sonny Thompson	918-231-9001
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Mini Fun

In my spare time, I like to work jigsaw puzzles on my desktop computer. The site I go to is **Jigsaw Planet** where I happened upon a category called **Miniatur Faktories**. Their puzzles are tiny people building and working! Really cute and a bit of a challenging puzzle with all those tiny body parts. There is also a category for **Dollhouse** which is amazing! Give it a try!

From Martha Bates

Welcome New Region E-2 Members

Jennilee Longshore

Susan Geist

Cindy Roberts

De-Vonna Clark

My First Dollhouse

By Carol Katz

My 1st dollhouse wasn't actually a dollhouse, but my closet. It was about 5 feet wide and 2.5 feet deep. Across the floor, the width of the whole closet, along the back, were built-in drawers, about 12 to 15 inches deep and 5-6 inches high. I got my first Barbie when I was 5 years old, and the closet floor was her house. As I got more furniture, the Deluxe Dream Kitchen, etc., I needed more room. My Daddy went into his workshop and built a staircase, perfectly Barbie sized, that went from the floor to the top level of the drawers!!! So now I had a 2 story, perfect dollhouse. My friends and I played there for hours and hours, for many years! I only wish I had pictures of it. Even at that very young age, I had an eye for finding things in the house, that would be perfect Barbie size for something else. I found my baby ring, just a small, gold baby ring. That became Barbie's bangle bracelet!! That is where my love of miniatures first began. And still continues!

NAME Region E-2 Calendar of Events

May 29-31, 2026. Texas Miniature Showcase, 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!

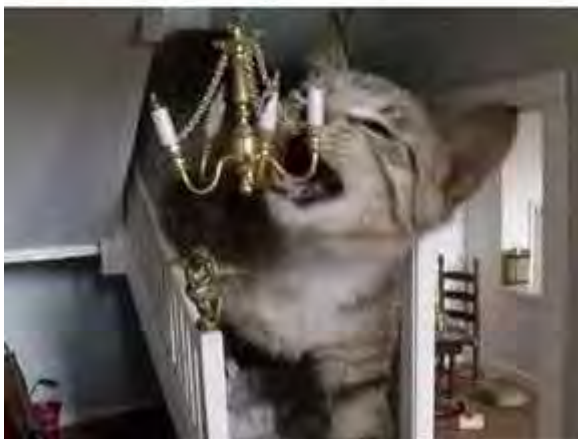
Contact: info@texasminiatureshowcase.us

Jul 23-26, 2026. NAME National Convention, LaQuinta, CA

Contact: <https://miniatures.org/26Cal>

Mini Joke!

Fun Idea: Build a dollhouse that's an exact replica of your actual house. Let your cat loose in it. Send pictures to your neighbors, family, friends, saying "Something happened to the cat, I don't know if I'll survive the night."



NAME News & Updates



NAME National 2025, Cincinnati, OH

If you could not attend the NAME National Convention in Cincinnati, you missed a neat convention. The weather was beautiful, and a short stroll provided local eateries and some very tasty ice cream right across the street!

We offered 29 workshops by 21 Instructors in a variety of various scales and techniques. Theme lunches provided an opportunity to get to know the instructors and enjoy a nice lunch with great information on various techniques.

Wednesday was a super special day as the Gala was a bus ride to Maysville to have dinner and tour the famous KSB Miniature Museum. It was filled with the most amazing miniatures. The work of the pieces displayed were some of the most exceptional pieces I have ever seen! You need to add this to your bucket list if you have never been.

Thursday was a fun Thursday Night Project with Sue Ketchum. The store was offered in 3 scales and all pieces were electrified. Nancye Claypool brought her famous sugar cookies to share.

Friday the Business meeting was held, and the Board presented the revised By Laws that were approved. They will be in the next Gazette and online. We also said thank you for serving on the Board to Lynn Hoffman and Beth Grabau. The 2025 Regional Ambassador Awards were awarded to Sandi Shalometh, Lynn Hoffman, Peggy Zorn, Julie Stuckmeyer, Ellen Yunker, Kate Vitullo, Christin McIntyre-Hannon, Mindy Yates, Lynn Montgomery, and Karen Mason. The President's award was presented to Lynn Hoffman. Founder Award went to Barbara Thornton-Hill and Luba Barnes. Benefactor's Award went to Rosemary Shipman.

Ruth Stewart, Pat Boldt, and Ginger Anderson won the Academy of Honor and Janet Smith won the Mell Prescott award.

I hope to see many of you in California next year!! Jane McNatt



Amy Burgess, Jane McNatt and Suzie Aguilar at the Cincy 2025 NAME National Convention



CALIFORNIA DREAMING 2026

It's not too early to mark your calendars. The 2026 NAME National Convention is scheduled for July 23 – 26, plus three days of Pre-Convention workshops. Make those dreams come true and come for the week!

It's exciting that the National Convention will be back to the West Coast and will be within a day or less driving distance for many of you or the ease of using one of the 13 airlines flying to Palm Springs International Airport.

The three western NAME Regions (N1, N2 and N3) are directly supporting the Convention with human and monetary resources. General Registration is online beginning February 14th.

The upcoming Gazette issues, Social Media, and our NAME Website (<https://miniatures.org/26Cal>) will have all the information to excite your appetite for the breathtaking oasis that defines the La Quinta Resort and Club in La Quinta California near Palm Springs. (Check it out at: <https://www.laquintaresort.com/>)

**As a Hilton resort property, the La Quinta is not the affiliated
with the Inns and Suites located across the Country.**

We'll have unique centerpieces, workshops by skilled artisans, opportunities for networking and purchasing from your favorite new or familiar artisan. Self-parking is free so once you are settled in, getting around the Resort and Club is a breeze, too—golf carts will shuttle us wherever we need to go on the resort grounds, so no long walks required.

So, why should you attend?

There are so many reasons so put these dates on your 2026 calendar and watch for detailed information in forthcoming media releases. For questions, contact: Carol Hodgson, Convention Publicity Chair, cadreaming2026@yahoo.com or Kim Ash, NAME Office, kim@miniatures.org, or visit <https://miniatures.org/26Cal>.

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October is National Dollhouse Month

NAME is celebrating with a special NAME Day project.

This year's theme is a courtyard, offering endless creative possibilities. Whether you envision a charming romantic setting or a spooky haunted scene, there are countless ways to personalize and enhance your courtyard.

We encourage you to share your complete creations—submit photos to the Gazette for a chance to be featured! *Jane McNatt, President*

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Always remember to check out the NAME websites

miniatures.org and create.miniatures.org

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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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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 Knowledge

It's impossible to provide an exact number of dollhouses in the US. However, dollhouses have a long history, starting with Egyptian tombs and evolving into mass-produced toys in the 19th century. They were originally designed for adults, and later became popular among children, particularly in Europe. Dollhouses are still enjoyed today, and while it's not known how many exist, they remain a popular toy and collectible.

Regional Coordinator News

As you may remember, I introduced Amy Burgess in the last newsletter as the new Regional Coordinator for E2. Sadly, Amy has had a setback since taking the position and will not be as active as she had hoped. She recently found out that cancer has returned and spread. Amy wants to continue sending out the monthly membership list but if you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to me at rc liaison@miniatures.org. Please keep Amy in your thoughts and prayers as she fights this horrible disease.

Thank you, Suzie Aguilar-RC Liaison



Celebrating NAME Day with my favorite people! What a great day! Love these ladies! *From Amy Burgess*

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 to apply!

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

Texas, Melinda Yates. miniatures.n.community@gmail.com

Michaels Goes Miniatures!

I was amazed to walk into Michaels in the Shreveport/Bossier City, LA area and instead of finding a few miniatures, there were two full rows of well-stocked items. Both 1/12 and 1/24 scale accessories plus kits to make 1/24 scale room boxes. *Check it out at your local store! From Martha Bates*



From the Editor

Please help me make this YOUR newsletter. I welcome you to submit 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 our next Newsletter is January 1, 2026.