

# THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Volume XXXVII Number 3, Issue 207 MAY, 2017



*The Flowers are Blooming, Summer is On The Way*

Single Issue Price: \$7.00

ISSN #1097-5551

*"A Memory Fading on the Horizon"*  
by Sherry Mayo



Ella was so weary of the long, dusty ride aboard the carriage, but also excited to be arriving in the city at last. It was approaching dusk as the driver slowed the horses in preparation for the stop at the inn where the passengers would spend the night. In an hour or so, they would gather for the evening meal in Mrs. Haven's large, stately dining room. For now though, Ella longed for a drawn bath and a change out of her dusty clothes.

Once refreshed, she joined the other occupants of the inn seated in the drawing room to await the call for dinner. Ella was not quite as social as some of the more seasoned travelers because this was her first trip away from her home. That caused her to sit off at a distance from the others where she could listen without being obliged to engage. It was then she noticed that an elderly woman was approaching; she braced herself for the inevitable question, "Why don't you join us dear?"

*(continued on page 9)*

# THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

*Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977*

ISSN# 1097-5551

Volume XXXVII, Number 3 Issue Number 207

May, 2017

## Book Reviews and Criticism:

<b>Japanese Color Prints and Their Designers</b> , by Frederick Gookin, published by Plum Park Press	05
<b>The Beggar's Opera</b> , by Mr. John Gay, published by Plum Park Press	06
<b>TEN VOLVELLES</b> , by Pat Sweet, published by Bo Press Miniature Books	07

## Special Features:

Frontispiece, <i>A Memory Fading on the Horizon</i> , by Sherry Mayo, continued	09
Bookshelves, Bookcases, & Shoeboxes	11
The Demise of the Library Card Catalogue	13
Elegant Standardized Handwriting	14
Sherlock and Conan, by Robert F. Orr Hanson	17
William Addison Dwiggins	20
Bucks On the Bookshelf, Part 2, by Steve Eisenstein	21
Creating A Conclave Keepsake, by Nina Mazzo	24
Not In Bradbury, 'Daily Food' by Todd Sommerfeld	26
The Young Bibliophile, 'Make A Book In 10 Minutes'	29
The Legacy, by Msgr. Francis J. Weber	30
Time Machine, LXIVMOS, Number 9, by Nina Mazzo	32
Antiquarian Delights, <i>Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám</i>	34
Books That Are Out of the Box, <i>Oh These Vanities</i> , published by Lyceum Press	35
Letter To the Editor, submitted by Msgr. Francis J. Weber	37
More About Cookbooks, by Darleen Cordova	41
Interesting Video Entertainment, Arno Gschwendtner	45

## Departments:

More from the Bookman, (revisited), James M. Dourgarian, ABAA	19
Terms and Definitions, 'Type Measurement and Point System'	21
My Very First Miniature Book, by Martin Žnideršič	23
My First Purchase, by Darleen Cordova	25
My Very First Miniature Book, by Rick Hill	26
Get the Ink Ready, Start the Presses	31
Some Interesting Book Stuff, Information Sharing and Book Links	38
Publications Received	42
Catalogues Received	43
Upcoming Events	44
The July/August 2017 Frontispiece	47
Classified	49

## *The Microbibliophile*

P. O. Box 5453, North Branch, NJ 08876 U.S.A.  
Sherry Mayo, Publisher James M. Brogan, Editor  
© 2017 by James M. Brogan

## Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

Summer is on the way for sure. The peas in the garden are growing along with all of the blooming spring plants to chase away the last vestiges of the gray winter. The azaleas, the lilacs, the daffodills, and the redbuds just provide a bounty of color on which to feast your eyes. Even the bonsai trees push their new growth to assure you that they have made it through the cold winter season.

The MBS Conclave XXXV will be held in Oakland, California this August 11<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>. As always it will be a grand time for fellowship and books - books - books. You can get all of the details via the organization's website, [www.mbs.org](http://www.mbs.org).

We have made some tweaks to the new website, [www.themicrobibliophile.com](http://www.themicrobibliophile.com) one of which is 'aligning' the cover pictures so that they will 'advance' as you 'rollover' an image. I am requesting your help in providing content that would be informative and instructional for young bibliophiles. Feedback and suggestions are welcome at your convenience.

Our May issue of *The Microbibliophile* provides three new miniature book reviews, two from Plum Park Press, and one from Bo Press as well as, a very diverse set of interesting journalistic contributions for your reading enjoyment.

While doing a quick bit of research about Barbara Raheb for the last issue I came across some of her words of wisdom: "Those who take flight on the magic carpet of the written page gain some of the best travelling companions for this human journey and they too partake of the legacy". That sort of stuck in the back of my mind and over the next several weeks began to form a 'reflection' for me as an editor. My job is certainly interesting and it does afford me the luxury of meeting and talking to many different people. Summer is traditionally a time for travel, so my message is that we are all gatherers of information and writers at heart. As you travel through life, take stock of all of the life around you and the people and places that make up our world, learn and grow from the experiences, share your thoughts and make someone happy each day.

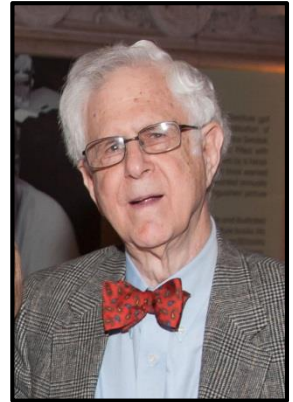
You know my feelings about the high value of diversity and all of the special benefits that can be brought alive through the pages of *The Microbibliophile* with some strokes of your pen. Keep sending me your feedback and suggestions as well as articles. I would especially like to request some information about you 'the collector' and specifically, 'your first miniature'. There is nothing like the conversations around the Sunday dinner table. "Pass the potatoes and why do people collect miniature books and how do we share this great gift with our young bibliophiles".

Share *The Microbibliophile* with a friend, we all like to talk about miniature books, which is our passion. Take a look at your bookshelves, there most certainly is a story there that you will want to share. How about 'My Conclave Keepsake'? Thank you for the opportunity to bring *The Microbibliophile* into your life. 📖



## OBITUARY, Julian I. Edison,

It is with sadness that we learned that Julian Edison passed away on Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Julian was President of the Miniature Book Society from 2007-2008 and a recipient of the Glasgow Cup and Forgue Award. He was the Founding Editor of the *Miniature Book News*. Julian was always a person who was ready to help and offer a solution or suggestion, aided by his scholarship and or physical presence. His cheerful smile, the sparkle of his eyes, and his warm closing comment will be missed by all: “to be continued.”



## MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



*Frontispiece  
'Lovers walking in Snow'  
Harunobu*

**Japanese Color Prints and Their Designers**, by Frederick Gookin. The original text, a publication whose contents were presented by the author, Frederick Gookin [1853 – 1936], to the ‘Japan Society of New York’, in 1894 and then published as a traditional book in 1913. Gookin, in addition to being a banker and author was also the Buckingham Curator of Japanese Prints at the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Plum Park Press miniature edition has reproductions all of the color prints that were included in the original publication. The first indication that you are about to enter into a magical world of fine art is the glossy dust jacket that is printed on a heavy paper in tones of rust and browns with an image ‘*Man and Two Women Approaching Temple*’, by the artist Kiyonaga. The image is very intricate and blends the detailed traditional garb with the subtle background images. You are immediately drawn into the image. (Our cover photo should provide you with a good visual understanding of the jacket design and print image). The physical book is a ‘large format’ miniature 3" x 3" so that the included images can be printed in a large format that is visually pleasing.

*Japanese Color Prints and Their Designers* is presented in two major components, the first being a 104 page history of the ‘ukiyo-e’ genre development

and the second section is devoted to a brief biography of 30 different major artists. The ukiyo-e genre of art flourished in Japan from the 17th through 19th centuries. Its artists produced woodblock prints and paintings of such subjects as female beauties, kabuki actors and sumo wrestlers, scenes from history and folk tales, travel scenes and landscapes, flora and fauna, and erotica. The term ukiyo-e translates as ‘pictures of the floating world’.

The text utilized in the miniature is Bernhard Modern, 9/13 pt., is very readable, and certainly complements the included artwork. The text pages are numbered on the outside top edge of each verso and recto page in a soft rust color. This enhanced effect is included with the book title printed across the two-page spread in a fine italicized font. Well done! In total, there are 24 color prints included with two expanded to be utilized as the ‘2-page view’ front and rear endpapers. The book is bound in a soft tan cloth. The text paper is Navigator Platinum 90 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The miniature is part of an edition of 20 copies, \$45 each, plus \$5 shipping and handling. All in all a very well done book both from the perspective of technical construction and materials as well as the design and printing. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, PO Box 77883, Fort Worth, TX 76177  
E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)

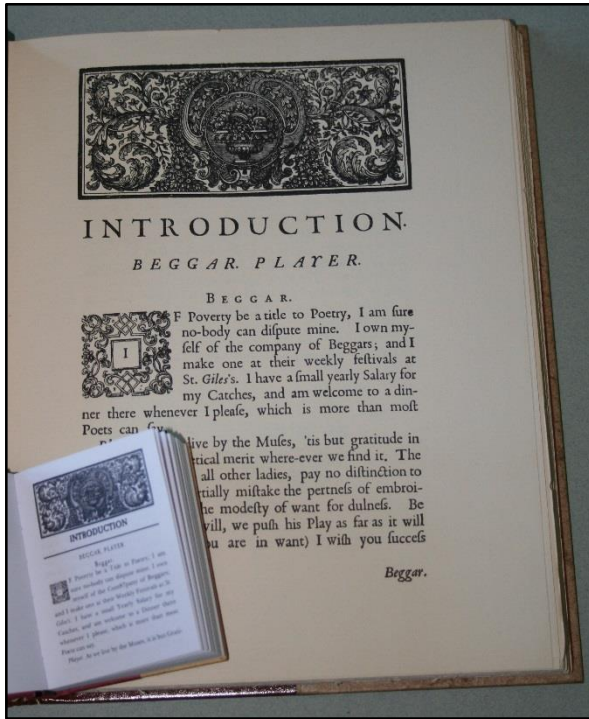


**The Beggar’s Opera**, by Mr. John Gay, [1685 – 1732], originally published in 1729 as a ‘ballad opera’ in three acts, by John Watts, London. Ballad operas are satiric musical plays that use some of the conventions of opera, but without the ‘recitative’. The lyrics are set to popular broadsheet ballads, opera arias, church hymns, and/or contemporary folk tunes. This style allowed the audience to sing or ‘hum’ along with the presentation and they could more easily ‘identify’ with the characters. The story satirized politics, poverty, and injustice, focusing on the theme of corruption at all levels of society, which enhanced its universality and appeal. The opera remains popular today; it was originally presented at Lincoln’s Inn Fields Theater and ran for 62 consecutive performances.

The Plum Park Press miniature is based entirely on the design of the original publication. Both include the actual script for all of the characters as well as the score for the music. I should also mention at this point the original stage presentation was written to be sung without the benefit of any instrumental accompaniment. A few days before the curtain was to rise, the theater manager

insisted on the addition of instrumental music. The one additional feature of the miniature is the inclusion of eight color plates, sketches by Claud Loyat Fraser, for the set and costumes. They represent the 1921 staging of the opera at the Lyric Theater, Hammersmith. Even though they are not part of the original, the sketches do put you, the reader, into the proper frame of mind while reading and looking at the visual interpretations such characters as ‘Captain Macheath’ (left) and ‘Lucy Lockit’ (right).





The miniature text utilizes the same typefaces, Baskerville and Caslon, as the original publication. Both the original and the miniature edition use a combination of marbled paper and pale red faux leather on the covers with the matching printed and gilded patterned designs. The title is gilt printed on the spine. The front and rear endpapers use the same red marbling pattern as the original 1729 version with a slight adjustment for scale. The book has an overall size of 3" x 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" and includes 141 pages of text, 44 pages for the songs, and the costume illustrations. The text paper is Navigator Platinum 75 g/m<sup>2</sup> and the illustrations are printed on Futura Glossy 118 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The miniature is part of an edition of 20 copies, \$50 each, plus \$5 shipping and handling. 📖

*Facsimile copy and miniature*

Contact information: Tony Firman, PO Box 77883, Fort Worth, TX 76177  
 E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)



**TEN VOLVELLES**, by Pat Sweet, published by Bo Press Miniature Books, 2017. A **volvelle** or **wheel chart** is a type of slide chart, a paper construction with rotating parts. They are considered to be early examples of a paper analog computer. Volvelles have been produced to accommodate calculations in many diverse subjects. Early examples of volvelles can be found in the pages of astronomy books where they were frequently utilized to calculate the locations and timing of heavenly objects and events.

Volvelles are probably the earliest form of movable paper engineering. The first known volvelle, was created

by the Benedictine monk, Matthew Paris in 1250. The traditional circular charts that appeared in the abbey's books, used to determine when to observe holidays, were cumbersome since the books were heavy and had to be rotated on the monks' laps. Matthew decided it would be a better solution if the circular chart spun around instead of the whole book and so the first volvelle was born, it is documented in his work, *Chronica Majora*.

Pat Sweet is a person who has no fear of going into a new area or format within the world of miniature books. I have seen illustrations of volvelles in some antiquarian books but this publication is the first time that I have been able to actually touch and work the rotational discs. Quoting from the Bo Press website; Pat explains, "I've taken ten volvelles from 1500 to 1700 and reverse-engineered them into their separate original parts, then put them together for you to play with. The volvelles I've chosen are both pretty and interesting to look at and fun to use. I've also left one uncut, if you'd like to try your hand at it. All you need are a needle and thread."

Each volvelle is glued to its own piece of board bound in a dark green textured paper, and is encased in a vellum folder, which helps protect the volvelle's parts as it is slipped in and out of its box, which is bound in the same green paper. The cardboard base measures  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $2\frac{5}{8}$ ", the set in the storage box is  $2\frac{1}{16}$ " deep



***Volvelles with vellum wrappers unfolded***

The cardboard base, for each volvelle measures  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $2\frac{5}{8}$ ", the set contained within the storage box is  $2\frac{1}{16}$ " deep. The edition is limited to 10 sets and is priced at \$120. 📖

Contact information: Pat Sweet, Bo Press, 231 E. Blaine St., Riverside, CA, 92507-3230  
E-mail: [info@bopressminiaturebooks.com](mailto:info@bopressminiaturebooks.com) or [www.bopressminiaturebooks.com](http://www.bopressminiaturebooks.com)



**FRONTISPIECE (continued),**  
**By Sherry Mayo**

Thankfully, the matron of the inn stepped into the room and announced, “Dinner is ready” and everyone began shuttling themselves to the dining room. Ella hung back, letting the other disperse before allowing herself to venture into the room. “Ah” she thought as she spied a table devoid of any other diners and headed straight over. Ella sat down with a quiet sigh of relief to be alone with her thoughts.

However, twas not to be, for there before her stood an old man in a rumpled suit asking if he might join her for dinner. Ella’s “Yankee” manners would not allow her reject the gentleman’s query, so she merely nodded her assent. He introduced himself as Henry Kent and asked, “To whom is my pleasure for dinner?” Ella drew in a deep breath and replied, “Ella, Ella Kimble”. “So very happy to make your acquaintance”, replied Henry as he took a seat.

Ella did not respond as her hands wrung the soft cloth napkin held on her lap. Not to be deterred, the old man persisted in his efforts to engage Ella in conversation as the courses were presented and exchanged. It was not until he mentioned a favorite haunt of his in this city that it caught Ella’s ear. Henry was prattling on about an old bookstore he had discovered whilst on a walk about the streets near the inn.

Ella suddenly began asking questions in such “rapid-fire” that Henry was shocked but pleased that, at last, he had found a mutual topic to end the single-sided conversation. Ella wanted to know all the details of this treasure trove that Henry had discovered; where is it located, is it far, who owns it, when will it be open, what kind of books do they sell – new or old or both, are there many books, and the best question of all – will you take me there tomorrow.

The next morning, Ella, dressed in her best “about town” outfit, waited anxiously for Henry to join her for breakfast so their adventure to the bookstore could begin. At last, he appeared and shuffled across the knotty pine floor to her table. Ella struggled to contain her eagerness as Henry downed his breakfast, which to her seemed to be happening in slow motion.

Finally! Henry slurped the last of his tea and was ready to begin the trek to Ella’s long awaited destination – the bookshop of treasures. They must have appeared an odd pair as they walked together the few blocks up the avenue before making the turn down the side street occupied by the bookstore. Her feet were barely skimming the ground and had to keep stopping to allow the shuffling old man to catch-up. She decked-out in her “finest” outfit and he sporting the same rumpled suit from the evening before; an odd site indeed!

Ella knew the store was not too distant because the warmth and sun of the day had allowed the proprietor to leave the massive oak doors open. Each whiff of the passing breeze brought the familiar odor of aged leather to Ella’s eager senses. The pull was so strong she wanted to sprint the last measures of space and clamor up the steps but the refinement of her upbringing again tamed the urges of youth with respect for the elder. “Patience my heart”, Ella whispered to herself.

Henry, with a broad grin and a flourish of his arm, announced, “Miss Ella, we have arrived!” He then held out his hand and took her arm into the crook of his elbow to escort her into the store as though taking a princess into her castle. Ella willing obliged her escort with a gentle curtsy and up the steps, they strode.


The site that befell her eyes at the top of the landing caused her to gasp with joy. Never before had she seen so many lovely books gathered in one place other than the homes of the wealthiest in her hometown. In sensual overload, Ella tried to observe the magnitude of what spread out before her – books were everywhere, on shelves, in piles on tables, and on old desks.

Suddenly, she was aware of another voice trying to penetrate the voice of her own thoughts. “Ah, Hello, welcome to my humble bookshop. My name is Boggs. May I be of service to you today?” Shaking off the sensual overload, Ella regained her composure and greeted Mr. Boggs, “So glad to make your acquaintance. My friend, Mr. Kent, has kindly allowed me to accompany him to your wonderful shop. I have nothing in particular that I am searching for at the moment. However, I would enjoy a moment to wander about your store.” “Be my guest”, said Mr. Boggs. “If you need assistance, I shall not be far off”.

Ella looked to see where Henry had gone and saw he was immersed in a section labeled ‘Ancient Lore’; she smiled to herself and took the stairs leading to the lower level. As her hand glided along the old wood handrail, she mused to herself who might have touched that very spot before her. She allowed herself to just stand in the midst and absorb all the smells that define an old bookshop – the years of knowledge bound into vellum, calf, leathers of every kind all-rushing inward as she breathed.

She ran her fingers along the edges of the shelves glancing at titles as she went, many titles she recognized from her school days, but others were strangers waiting to be discovered. Later, after probing nearly every corner of the shop, a curious group of books caught her wandering gaze. In a far corner stood an ornate dollhouse and next to it was a bookcase filled with tiny books. It was not uncommon to see tiny replicas of books used for decorating dollhouses, but Ella had never seen real books this small.

Among the tiny volumes, she discovered books concerning history, religion, travel, and adventure, even complete novels by authors she owned in “normal” size editions. Ella picked out a few of the unique little books that captured her eye and proceeded to round her way back to Henry and Mr. Boggs. Immersed in her thoughts about her good fortune at meeting Mr. Kent and finding these wonderful little books, she found herself annoyed by a distant ringing sound.

Try as she may, the sound would not go away! As it persisted, reality slowly began to arouse her from the deep realms of sleep, and the sun drenching her face beckoned her with the beginning of a new day. “Oh”, she muttered in disappointment to no one, “It was only a silly, old dream”. She swung her legs out from under the covers to slip her feet into her waiting loafers but let out a sharp gasp of surprise when her hand reached for the still ringing alarm. There, next to the alarm on her nightstand, was a small group of tiny books tied neatly with twine and a little card that read, “Bogg’s Magical Bookshop”. 

# **BOOKSHELVES, BOOKCASES, & SHOEBOXES, HOW MANY BOOKS DO YOU HAVE; 500, 1,000, 2,000? WHERE DO WE KEEP OUR TREASURES?**

**By Jim Brogan**

Everyone can always use a bit more space on the bookshelf for just a few more books. The most common form or location of book storage is the traditional bookshelf built as a freestanding unit of almost any proportion of length and width, with various shelf heights to accommodate the books that need to be stored or displayed. Wood is the most common material for a bookshelf unit, it may be painted or stained, could hold a thin piece of cardboard or archival paper to protect the edge of the book, or maybe the shelves could be made of glass. The shelves could be of an open design or built with some type of ‘glass doors’ to keep that ‘enemy of books’ dust at bay.

Over the years, *The Microbibliophile* has published more than a few articles about book collecting, organizing a collection, and how to store your books. One such article was published in the March 2014 issue and addressed the various considerations that one may consider based on their collection and what is needed to address as planning issues for their treasures. The title of the March 2014 issue article is ‘How Can I Organize My Book Collection’ and it addressed some of the considerations about construction of bookshelves.

Going beyond the traditional ‘shelf storage’ configurations there is a world of possibilities that a collector can utilize for storage and show casing their prized miniature tomes. Sometimes small shadow boxes can be configured as a miniature book display unit, which would typically hang on the wall. Another, more common than you may think, solution is to utilize a ‘clock case’ as a display piece, removing the clock works and adding an appropriate number of shelves to fit the case and the books to be displayed.

Sometimes you can actually ‘repurpose’ a piece of furniture into a wonderful miniature book storage solution. Library card catalogue cabinets were produced by the thousands over the years to satisfy the needs of the many libraries. Some of these cabinets were made of wood and some made of steel. All had one thing in common, they had lots of drawers, and the drawers were typically about 3½" tall x 5" wide, tall so that they are the perfect size for most miniature books. Most of these cabinets have provided years of service to libraries and in the last 20 years or so they have become ‘surplus’ with the advent of ‘digital card cataloguing’ applications.

The card catalogue cabinet pictured here (*right*) is about 63½" tall and 33" wide, and 18" deep from the front to the rear of the cabinet. It was constructed in three ‘stacking’ sections with a total of 40 drawers. Each of the drawers is 5" wide x 3½" deep (top to bottom),



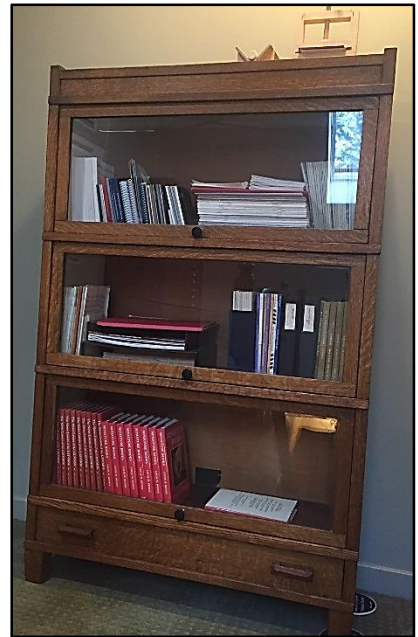
and 16" from front to rear. As a storage solution, each drawer would easily store 40 books of about 3/8" thickness; the entire cabinet could possible store 2000 books, 50 in each drawer times 40 drawers. Card catalogue cabinets are generally available from second hand furniture or antique dealers. A consideration, for planning purposes, cabinets that are in pristine condition, or completely refinished will command a considerable purchase price, easily several hundred dollars for a large cabinet. The flip side is that if you are handy and like to recondition furniture, bargains are always waiting at your doorstep. Thinking back 25 years, as computers invaded the library world, you could not give these cabinets away. The advantage of this type of unit is that books are stored without danger of sunlight, the drawers can be removed from the cabinet for inspection of contents, and the design of the cabinets allows airflow to rise through the cabinet from the bottom of the unit.



A second common solution is the 'glass doored bookshelf' (*above*). Again, these solid oak units were produced by the thousands for use in professional offices in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The case shown in the picture is about 52" high, 48" wide, and 15" deep front to back. Originally configured with two large doors (wood framed glass) and four regular height bookshelves.

Making this bookcase/cabinet into a treasure chest for miniature books was relatively simple. Small miniature 'boxes' were constructed to sit on each of the original shelves, the new boxes are 8" high x 4" deep x 22" and are built with an intermediate shelf. Each box can hold approximately 66 books using the formula of 22" divided by 3/8". Therefore, each original shelf can provide storage for about 132 book in the two boxes built for each shelf. The entire cabinet can hold about 528 books on the box/shelves. Again this type of cabinet can provide a sufficient amount of air ventilation through holes drilled in the back or bottom, sun protection can be provided by adding a UV resistant film to the glass doors and some archival paper will protect the bottom of the books from any residual 'wood acid'. The added advantage is that you can easily see the books via the glass doors. Refinished or waiting for your sandpaper and time these units are also available and in good supply.

The third option that I want to share with you from the perspective of 'reconfigured furniture' is the 'barrister book case'. These units were manufactured in all wood species and finished for business offices of the early 20th century.



They continue to be manufactured today as new furniture as well since they sort of command a bit of a ‘cult existence’ for whatever reason. They are available in a host of sizes between 24” – 36” in width and by design, each ‘shelf unit’ can be stacked on top of each other to provide as much storage as you need, they come with a variety of ‘leg/base’ configurations. The key here is that it is very easy to build supplementary shelf boxes as mentioned with the ‘glass doored units’ or add additional shelves to each cabinet. The unit pictured here is about 36" wide x 52" tall by 12" deep, four cabinets stacked with a separate ‘leg unit’ as well as a ‘top hat’ piece to complete the cabinet appearance package. Sunlight protection can be gained with the addition of a UV resistant film and access to the books is very easy with the glass doors that ‘lift-up and roll back’ into the top of each shelf unit. The barrister book case solution is probably the most pricey as the units are in demand for everything from A – Z.

Here are some solutions that I hope will give you some ideas and expand the joys of your book collecting. A few of the more popular and well-made cabinets from yesteryear were manufactured by such companies as ‘Library Bureau Sole Makers’, ‘Globe Wernicke’, or ‘Lundstrom Company’. Remember these pieces were manufactured as commercial office furniture and have stood the test of time and usage, certainly good for another hundred years of service. 📖

## **THE DEMISE OF THE LIBRARY CARD CATALOGUE, Where Did All of the Cabinets Go? Reported by Jim Brogan:**

It has been a long time since most libraries were filled with card catalogs — drawers upon drawers of paper cards with information about books. Who could forget the small scraps of paper and the small pencils that were used to jot notes from the cards. Well maybe there are some readers who have not had the experience; about 30 years ago libraries began the technology upgrade to replace the card catalogues with ‘online searchable databases. Time and change always march forward. The Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), the cooperative, which created the world’s first shared, online catalog system back in 1971, allowed libraries to order custom-printed cards that could then be put in their own analog cataloging systems, this was put to rest several years ago.

Printed library catalogs served a useful purpose for more than 100 years, making resources easy to find within the walls of the physical library. Now, with




comprehensive, cloud-based catalogs like OCLC's 'WorldCat' available to libraries, there is just no need for cards any longer, <https://www.worldcat.org/>. Catalog cards have not always been printed: In fact, good handwriting used to be a key skill for librarians. In an 1898 card catalog handbook, Melvil Dewey even gave instructions on what types of cursive should be used by catalogers on handwritten cards. "Legibility is the main consideration," he wrote. "Skillful writers acquire reasonable speed without sacrificing legibility. The time of the writer is, however, of small importance compared with that of the reader."

The main card catalogue at the Library of Congress was removed several years ago during a renovation of the Main Reading Room. The Library of Congress (LC) card catalog system dates back to 1898. By 1901 the LC Card Division was producing vast quantities of them for sale to libraries across the country (before services provided by organizations like the OCLC). Every book in the collection had a standardized card listing, relevant metadata, and cross-referenced topics.

There is something undeniably interesting about perusing the rows of drawers, with thousands of cards, taking in the subtle variations in typography and handwriting on each one. The cards are pleasantly tactile, and the paper has the faint smell of an old book. It is the same physical power that keeps some book lovers from ever making the switch from hardcover to an eBook, sort of a 'magic potion'. The modernization of the card catalogue took more than 20 years at the Library of Congress due to the size and complexity of their collections.

There is a very interesting online (of course) article about the card catalogue for those interested in digging into the drawers with a more in depth view of the 'birth and death of a technology, yes the 'card catalogue' is considered a technology. Earlier than the 'card catalogue' libraries utilized 'vast detailed index books' to reference their collections. You can easily see the advantage of the card catalogue which allowed the library to easily make a card for a new acquisition and insert it in the appropriate location rather than reprinting the 'big book'. The digital address of the article is <http://www.allpurposeguru.com/2013/10/card-catalog-birth-and-death-of-a-technology>.

The devil is in the details for sure. 

*Editor's Note: There are many interesting subjects in the above article. I can see an article on the 'Dewey Decimal System' as well as the 'WorldCat', how it works and how to use it. I am always looking for some extra pens and paper or I should say some digital clicks. How about that special 'printing language' that librarians used to 'create a library card catalogue record? Read on.*

## **ELEGANT STANDARDIZED HANDWRITING, Just What the Card Catalogue Needed! Reported by Jim Brogan:**

Is that a '3' or is that a '5'? The difference could send you to an entirely different end of the 'library stacks'. Behold 'Library Hand', a font designed specifically for librarians (before or without) typewriters who created cards for card catalogs. Before digital databases, before computerized fonts, before 'Library Hand', the millions of cards in the thousands of library card

catalogues were subjected to the slants, hoops, spacing, and twists of the penmanship style of the many librarians.

The problem was not cataclysmic but it was a problem, so in September 1885, a group of librarians spent four days discussing and developing a solution. In the presence of such library-world luminaries as Melvil Dewey—the well-organized chap whose Dewey Decimal System keeps shelves orderly to this day—they discussed a range of issues, from the significance of the term “bookworm” to the question of whether libraries ought to have a separate reference-room for ladies.

They then turned their attention to focus on the crucial issue: handwriting. As libraries acquired more books, card catalogs needed to expand fast in order to keep track of them. Though the newly invented typewriter was beginning to take hold, it took time and effort to teach the art of ‘machine writing’ as well as obtain the equipment for all libraries. Librarians still had to handwrite their catalog cards, hence the source of the problem. “The trouble in handwriting,” said Mr. James Whitney, of the Boston Public Library, “is that there is apt to be too much flourishing.” Professor Louis Pollens of Dartmouth College agreed: “We want a handwriting that approaches as near to type as possible, that will do away with individual characteristics.” Mr. C. Alex Nelson, of the Astor Library in New York, then mentioned that “T. A. Edison, the inventor” had lately been experimenting with penmanship styles in order to find the most speedy and legible type of handwriting for telegraph operators. Edison, Nelson recalled, had ultimately selected ‘a slight back-hand, with regular round letters apart from each other, and not shaded.’ With this style, Edison was able to write at a respectable 45 words per minute. Who else but the ‘Wonder of Menlo Park’ would have thought of such a solution?

Hearing this, Dewey set out a catalog-minded mission for the group: “We ought to find out what is the most legible handwriting.” This was the beginning of ‘library hand’, a penmanship style developed over the ensuing year or so for the purpose of keeping card data standardized and legible. Influenced by Edison and honed via experimenting on patient, hand-sore librarians, library hand focused on uniformity rather than beauty. “The handwriting of the old-fashioned writing master is quite as illegible as that of the most illiterate boor,” read a New York State Library School handbook. “Take great pains to have all writing uniform in size, blackness of lines, slant, spacing, and forms of letters,” wrote Dewey in 1887. In addition, if librarians thought they could get away with just any black ink, they could think again. ‘Inks called black vary much in color,’ scoffed the New York State Library School handwriting guide.

Dewey and his crew of ‘a dozen catalogers and librarians’ spent, in his estimation, ‘an hour daily for nearly an entire week’ hashing out the rules of ‘library hand font’. They started by examining hundreds of card catalogs, looking for penmanship problems and coming up with ways to solve them. They concluded that the ‘simpler and fewer the lines the better,’ and decided that, while a slant was best avoided, a *slight* backward slant was acceptable. Then they got to the more nitty-gritty stuff, such as whether to opt for a ‘square-topped 3’ or a ‘rounded-top 3’. (The rounded-top 3 won out, as you can see from the following example, as it is less likely to be mistaken for a 5 during hasty reading.)

Since the aim was legibility, not haste, ‘library hand’ was not so speedy to execute—but the pace depended on the scribe’s skill. More importantly, the time saved among librarians who had previously mistaken 3’s for 5’s was priceless.

Disjoined Hand

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N  
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j . k l m n o p  
q r s t u v w x y z  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 &

Take great pains to have all writing uniform in size, slant, spacing & forms of letters.

Joined Hand

A B C D E F G H I J K L  
m n o p q r s t u v w  
W X Y Z  
a b c d e f f ß g h h i j k k  
l m n o p q r s t u v w x y y  
z

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 &

Take great pains to have all writing uniform in size, slant, spacing & forms of letters.

*Handwriting samples for library school students,  
from the 1901 book A Library Primer,  
by John Cotton Dana . PUBLIC DOMAIN*



Now that card catalogs have been replaced by digital indexing, ‘library hand’ is a rare sight, unless you know where to look. After the New York Public Library (NYPL) removed its physical card catalog in 1971, every card was photographed and composited onto the pages of an 800-volume set of black books. These books, collectively known as the *Dictionary Catalog of the Research Libraries of the New York Public Library, 1911-1972*, can be found on public shelves in the main branch of the NYPL, as well as many other libraries around the world. Though most of the cards are typed, you can still find many examples of ‘library hand’ in these black books, which are special lenses into our past technology. 📖

## **SHERLOCK and CONAN, By Robert F. Orr Hanson:**

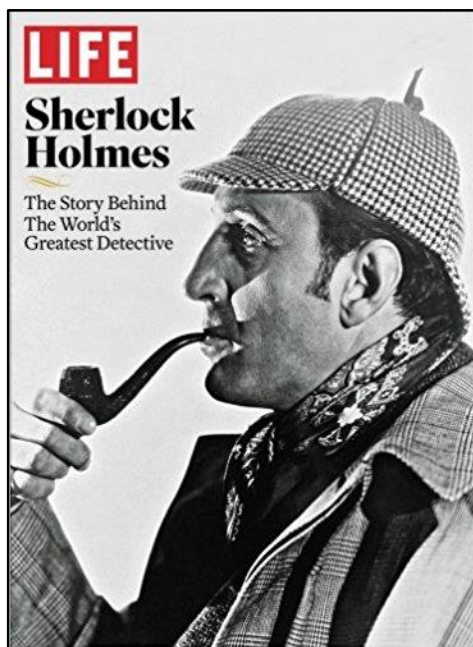
SHERLOCK HOLMES LIVES! Recently, I discovered another new book about the greatest consulting detective. This title is a full-size reference work, which will add more insight to your collection of miniature Sherlockian books. The title? *SHERLOCK HOLMES The Story Behind The World’s Greatest Detective*. Published in 2016 by LIFE BOOKS, the writer is J. I. Baker and the photographer is Christine Lieberman. The purchase price is \$13.99 from your favorite bookseller.

The book, itself, measures 8" x 11" inches and is bound in a pictorial soft cover with full-page front and back cover actor photographs. The book contains 96 pages of text and about 100 illustrations and photographs. The front cover shows a profile of Basil Rathbone as Holmes, taken from an acting performance in 1945, replete with pipe and checkered deerstalker cap. The back cover shows a photograph of Benedict Cumberbatch, as the present-day Sherlock, as presented in the BBC ONE television program.

I like to think that this book is a biographical treatment, in five chapters, of a medical doctor, A. Conan Doyle, turned mystery writer and his creation, Sherlock Holmes. After the one-page Introduction, there are five chapters bearing the following titles:

One – ‘The Birth of Sherlock Holmes’ 1859-1886. How a struggling physician created the world’s greatest consulting detective and his meeting with Dr. John Watson, his ultimate biographer.

Two – ‘Scandal and Success’ 1887-1893. From triumph on Baker Street to tragedy at Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland. Also, a brief look at several of Doyle’s short stories.

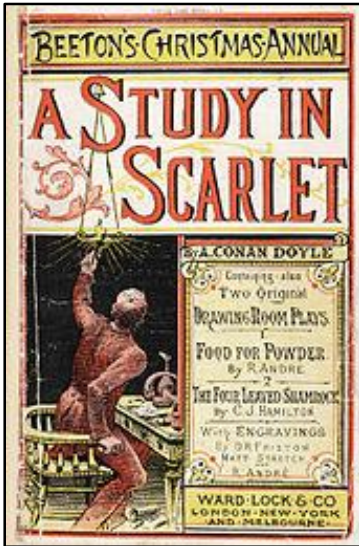


Three – ‘Farewell, Holmes!’ 1893-1906. The world mourns the murder of a non-existent man. “If I had not killed him, he would certainly have killed me” –A. Conan Doyle.

Four – ‘Sarajevo and the Spirits’ 1906-1931. After the Great War: Fairies, Houdini and the Afterlife. Enter, the period of spiritualism and the voice of Doyle’s deceased son.

Five – ‘The Detective Who Wouldn’t Die’ 1931-Present. The fiction, plays, movies, and television shows that keep Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson alive.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, the second of ten children. The young Doyle later graduated from the University of Edinburgh as a medical doctor. He studied under a surgeon-professor named Dr. Joseph Bell who taught his students the importance of observation and the art of detection.



He was the real life inspiration for Sherlock Holmes. Because his medical practice was slow in starting, Dr. Conan Doyle began writing mystery stories and created the characters of Holmes and his biographer, Dr. John Watson, with whom he lodged at 221B Baker Street in Victorian London. The first successful story, written by Dr. A. Conan Doyle was the novel *A Study In Scarlet* and it appeared as a series in the magazine ‘Beaton’s Christmas Annual’ for 1887.

Thus began the writing of Conan Doyle’s 56 short stories which were published in such periodicals as ‘The Strand’ and ‘Colliers’. His most famous novel, of the four published, was *The Hound of the Baskervilles* placed in 1889. It was produced as a film in 1939, the first of 14 movies.

Conan Doyle was married twice. He and his first wife, Louisa, had two children - a boy and a girl. After Louisa died, he married Jean and they had three children - two boys and a girl.

Moving now to the many illustrations that are the ‘frosting on the cake’, so to speak. There are about 100 color and black and white photographs, which really enhance the entire book. But, then, this is a *LIFE* book and we expect that provision.

A few of them include: the south bank of the River Thames, the Sherlock Holmes Pub, Arthur Conan Doyle (age six), the writer Doyle in 1894, Dr. Joseph Bell, Doyle and Louisa in 1892, notes for *A Study In Scarlet*, St. Bart’s Hospital, a Baker Street block-numbers 215-217, Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce, *A Study In Scarlet* - magazine cover, *The Sign of Four* - book cover, Holmes memorabilia, Professor Moriarty-real life model, Reichenbach Falls with Holmes and Moriarty about to go over, the Sherlock Holmes Museum, Jean Leckie Doyle, Doyle’s passport, *Hound of the Baskervilles* – book cover, Collier’s magazine cover – “The Return of Sherlock Holmes”, *His Last Bow* – Conan Doyle Uniform Edition, a séance in Paris-1900, a spiritualist photograph of Doyle -1922. Doyle and Houdini photograph, the last Holmes story - *Shoscombe Old Place* -April 1927 edition of “The Strand” magazine, Doyle and Paddy - his Airdale in 1927, Doyle archive – 2004 - sold at auction for over one million dollars, Doyle’s writing hut, and the Conan Doyle burial in 1930. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle passed away on July 7, 1930.

Vincent Starrett said it best in his poem, “221B”...

“Here, though the world explodes, these two survive,  
And it is always eighteen ninety-five.”

*There you have it!*

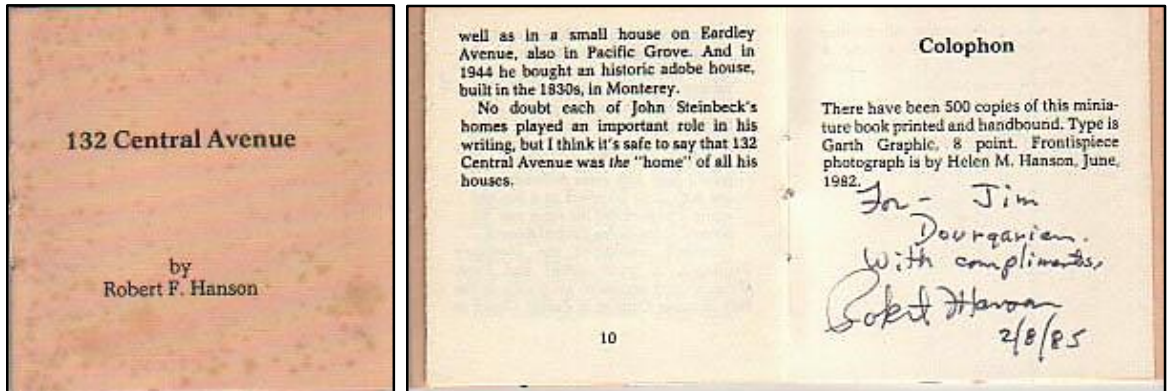


Contact information: Robert F. Orr Hanson, 12200 Academy Rd. NE #1222,  
Albuquerque, NM 87111

**MORE FROM THE BOOKMAN,  
James M. Dourgarian, ABAA:  
Reported by Jim Brogan:**

As part of our March 2017 issue, I included a short article introducing James Dourgarian to our readership. The article explained how sometimes fate and luck cross paths with our timelines to show us a book and then sometimes years later we are able to revisit a title or an obscure rare book.

Sometimes these lines of association and information cross many paths. Originally, Nina Mazzo, collector, was looking for some ‘war-time publications’ and came into contact with James Dourgarian, bookseller. One thing can lead to another and the conversation involved books by and about John Steinbeck. Robert F. Hanson, publisher (Opuscula Press) and original editor of *The Microbibliophile* published a miniature book titled *132 Central Avenue*, about Steinbeck’s home.

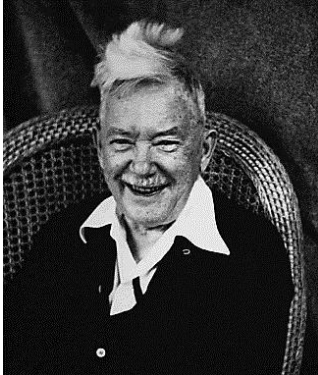


*Cover (L) and Colophon (R) with inscription from Robert Hanson to James Dourgarian*

Sometimes you get lucky. Other times — not so much.

## **WILLIAM ADDISON DWIGGINS, WAD** **‘Notes on the Structure of a Book’,** **Reported by Jim Brogan:**

Some book clubs publish hardbound miniatures, some publish elaborate newsletters, and some wish they did. As a member of a few different organizations, I am able to see a good cross reference of published materials that reflects the diligence and professionalism of the people who are behind the scenes making organizations ‘click like clocks’. Like ice cream, clubs and organizations come in all flavors, you just have to decide which you like best.



The Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society has produced a series of publications over the years since 1986. The publications are about book people, for the most part people with a connection to Ohio. Several issues back I did a short piece about *Paul Lemperly: Cleveland’s Great Collector of “Association” Books*. The current 2016 publication is about William Addison Dwiggins (1880 – 1956), a man born in Martinsville, Ohio. He is the person credited with creating the term ‘graphic designer’. His career was expanded over the years to highlight his skills as a type designer, calligrapher, illustrator, commercial artist, and book designer.

Dwiggins’ fame rests chiefly on the type designs he created, although his influence on book design was enormous. His expertise was honed though his long association with the publisher Alfred A. Knopf and George Macy’s ‘Limited Editions Club’.

The published pamphlet is 5" x 8" and contains twelve pages of text. An interesting tidbit is that the pamphlet is printed in the New Caldeonia typeface, as a digital version of the original Dwiggins typeface. The above picture of WAD is included on the inside of the front cover as well. Look into the picture and you can almost hear the laugh.

WAD begins his notes explaining that is we ‘peel’ a book layer by layer, like an onion, and examining each, we will learn the benefits of this process. WAD lets us know that jackets are ‘jolly things’ and are one of the tools that are used to ‘sell the book’. The shape of the cover, round or flat adds a certain something that is suitable or pleasant to a book. Past the cover are the endpapers, another layer. Decorated or undecorated, each brings something to the book. As WAD moves past these outer layers, he defines the title page as the ‘beginning of the fruit’. He stresses the importance of the type used to generate the ‘warmth’ that is so desirable to the reader. As he moves on to comment about the ‘dedication’ and the preface, he introduces his ideas on the importance of typeface and size. Now WAD, moves past all of these ‘preliminaries’ and defines the text as the thing that ‘for which everything else exists’. Paper, type, and page design are those attributes that can make or break the book design. WAD even impresses the importance of paper grain on the overall successful structure along with just how pictures and illustrations should be utilized.

William Addison Dwiggins, another important creator in the world of books. 📖


## **TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, 'Type Measurement and Point System':**

The terminology of 'type slugs' and their sizes have evolved since the 16<sup>th</sup> century through the skills of printers and type-founders. The earliest printers had to invent their own 'definitions and parameters' as no standards existed.

As with any technical needs, things evolve and are tweaked to provide good working solutions for all the parties involved, hence the 'point system'. The first version of this system was developed and introduced by Pierre Simon Fournier, in Paris, in 1737. The system was not too popular and evolved into the Didot (Francois-Ambroise Didot) version at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A third formula, that was different from these two early systems, was adopted in England and America. A 'point' is approximately one seventy-second of an inch, i.e. 36 points would be very close to 1/2".

This 'engineering reference' using mathematical terms' superseded the previous traditional and somewhat romantic, and mysterious terms used by type founders. Terms such as minion, ruby, brevier, and bourgeois moved out of favor.

As with everything, time marches on, especially with technology. Following the advent of desktop publishing in the 1980s and 1990s, digital printing has largely supplanted the letterpress printing and has established the DTP point (desktop publishing point) as the de facto standard. The DTP point is defined as 1/72 of an international inch (about 0.353 mm) and, as with earlier American point sizes, is considered to be 1/12 of a pica, a pica being about 1/6 of an inch.

If you choose to dig deeper into the measurement of 'type', visit the *Encyclopedia of the Book*, by Geoffrey Ashall Glaister, published by the Oak Knoll Press, 2001. 

## **'BUCKS ON THE BOOKSHELF', Part 2, Insight Into the World of a 'Bibliophile Team', By Steve Eisenstein:**

*Editor's Note: Steve and Edie are long time members of the MBS as well as subscribers to 'The Microbibliophile'. In the March 2017 issue, you were introduced to Steve and Edie. The journey continues.*

### **A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY OUT OF THE CASINO**

How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice and a little bit of luck. How do you get on the cover of Rolling Stone? Talent, practice, and by having a little bit of luck. How do you get a program about rare books on a radio station? Luck was a factor, read on.

Often in life strange things happen for various logical and illogical reasons. People have told me I am 'lucky' and often I hear "if someone else said that, I would not believe it". So what does a broken power window have to do with getting a program on rare books on an established radio station. EVERYTHING! A few bars of 'Happy Twilight Zone' music at this point would help.

It was a Tuesday morning and I went to start the car for some errand running. The car starts the power window goes down with a thud and does not come back up. Of course, at that exact moment the sky broke open with a sudden heavy deluge of South Florida rain. Books and the inside of your car windows should never get wet. Things got soaked that should not have and we were without a car for six days. When we got the car back on Monday along with the repair bill of \$379.00, we both looked at each other and said we need to unwind. Edie has often said that "Nothing hurts in front of a slot machine (or a good miniature book)". So off to Gulfstream Race Track and Casino we went. We unwound for a while Edie won \$140 and I lost \$90.00.

Since the dawn of shows on television like 'Pawn Stars' or 'Storage Auctions'. I have always wanted my own program on rare books. A radio station was broadcasting from Gulfstream Race Track that day. I saw that they were on a break. I walked up to the broadcast table and to this day, I do not remember my exact words, but the answer was "I like what you just said, speak to the owner of the station if he likes it too, we will give you a shot." Well the owner liked what I said and the rest is history. The funniest thing though was when I spoke to the owner of the station, his biggest concern was that in his many years of radio he has met a lot of 'experts' who know their stuff" but they could not do two hours on air. "Are you one of them", he asked? Edie, I, and anyone who knows me understand the humor in that. I have the gift of gab!

While I do the radio show Edie is always at my side. In the 'Rare Book Café', which is sponsored by the Florida, Antiquarian Book Fair. Edie has an 'on camera roll' and talks about miniature books and her collection. You can view the RARE BOOK CAFE on Google 'Hangouts on Air'. We are live every Saturday from 2:30 pm-3:30 pm EST. Both the 'Rare Book Café' and 'Bucks on the Bookshelf' have Facebook pages and past programs are archived. Let me extend an invitation to all who read this, to be part of one or both shows. We would love to have you like us, listen, and watch the programs. More so, we invite you to participate as a guest.

In the first article, of this series, we mentioned we would share a few experiences that Edie had as a first time buyer at a book fair. Going to the Florida Antiquarian Book Fair is a wonderful learning experience and started me on my quest for miniature books. Thanks to Michael Garbett and everyone else that I have met along the way this was my lesson in book fair protocol at my first antiquarian book fair. I had seen a chained miniature Bible on a pedestal in Michael's booth and knew I wanted to buy it. I showed it to people in the booth at the time while waiting for Michael to return to the booth. After a while, he did not show up so I left the book and the booth. By the time we both were in his booth at the same time, the book was gone. I was heartbroken. What I did not know was, if a dealer is not in his booth and you want a book leave your business card in it, which is what someone did when I left the booth and the book. Michael said do not worry, I have a nicer one in England and it would be mine. We instantly bonded and some 1,200 miniature books later here we are.

My friendship with Michael and learning about miniature books began when Michael sat me down with his briefcase of miniature books and opened it on a table. From there it was a new found passion. While I did not go home with the chained Bible. I did go home with a boxed set of Shakespeare of which I now have several variations on the shelf. Over the years that the Garbetts were in St. Petersburg my first question to Michael was always "what treasure am I taking home this year?" He never disappointed me.

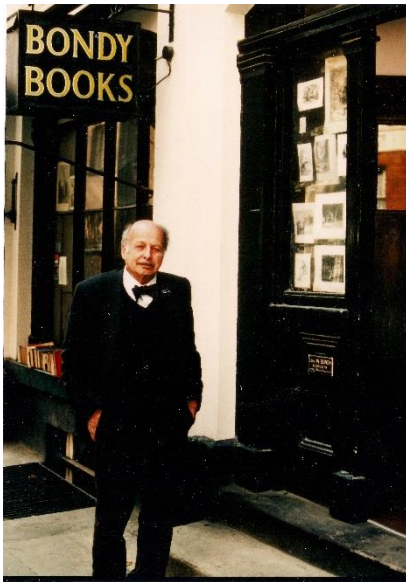
We hope that we have not disappointed you the reader with our book adventures and hope that you will join us for more adventures of rare books on the radio.

'BUCKS ON THE BOOKSHELF' is a radio program on Saturdays from 12:00 pm--2:00 PM EST on [www.WDBFradio.com](http://www.WDBFradio.com). Please join via the Internet and have a good time. 📖

Contact information: Steve and Edie Eisenstein, 2250 West Bay Drive, Apt. 15, Miami Beach, FL 33141  
E-mail: [Edieeisenstein@aol.com](mailto:Edieeisenstein@aol.com) or [stevenabookabrac@aol.com](mailto:stevenabookabrac@aol.com)

## MY FIRST MINIATURE BOOK By Martin Žnideršič:

In the 1970s and 1980s I was working in the Slovene publishing world. In late seventies, I visited the Leipzig Book Fair, then in Eastern Germany (DDR). I met a publishing partner who, at the end of the meeting, gave me a beautiful small book titled *Leipzig*. The booklet had 388 pages in the format 53 x 38 millimeters, printed in full colour and bound in leather. Up to that time, I did not know anything about miniature books. I liked the *Leipzig* book so much that I decided to start collecting miniatures. I could only find a very small number (less than five titles) of miniature books in the bookshops, but since I was the guest of the book fair they organized, for me, a meeting with Mr. Siegfried Hempel, director of a printer house specialized in printing miniature books. That visit was a very successful one; he gave me a number of miniature books. This was the beginning of my collection. I met him several times over the years and I could exchange many miniature books with him. He also visited Ljubljana in 1983, where he took part in the international symposium on miniature books. Mr. Luis Bondy spoke about the development of English miniature books from 16th to 20th century. Mr. Hempel lectured on miniature books in DDR.



*Bondy (L) and Martin (R), about March 1993*

I am proud that I had the opportunity to develop a very friendly relations with two important persons in the world of modern miniature books – Mr. Luis W. Bondy and Mr. Andrusko. Andrusko created 271 miniature books, mostly printed by himself. He was so kind and generous, sending to me for years all his miniature books, when he made them. I also organized three exhibitions of his miniature books over the years.

I met again, Mr. Bondy on one of my trips to London and on every one of my future visits I visited him in his bookshop. I am glad that I had the opportunity to visit him just three months before his death and I took a last photo of him.

The collecting of miniature books and contacts with quite a lot collectors from abroad has greatly enriched my life. 📖

## **CREATING A CONCLAVE KEEPSAKE:**

**By Nina Mazzo**

MBS Conclave 2016 was my first attempt at creating a keepsake. Fortunately, my husband Ken Silverman is creative and he found a unique format we could use – it is a single sheet of linen paper cut to fold into a 3" x 3" keepsake. Ken and I enjoy traveling and he is an excellent photographer as well as a native of San Francisco. With the MBS 2017 Conclave in neighboring Oakland, I asked him for some photos we might use this year. Allow me to proudly say that one of his photos of the Golden Gate Bridge had been in a special photography exhibit at the Crocker Museum in Sacramento.

We have decided to use that photo as our inspiration for our keepsake titled The Golden Gate. I am sharing this information, as I believe that the curiosity process in creating is as joyful as the end result and so I encourage members to take a chance and challenge themselves to make a keepsake this year. 📖

## **YOU KNOW YOU ARE AN AVID MINIBIBLIOPHILE WHEN....**

**By Nina Mazzo**

I recently celebrated a milestone birthday (65!) and smiled in amazement as I unwrapped marvelous new miniature books for my collection. I received two books by Peter and Donna Thomas (*Trees* and *Song of Creation*) – beautiful design; construction and I admire their artistry. *The Musgrave Ritual* by Barbara Raheb –I am a Conan Doyle fan and this is my first really tiny book and Barbara's reputation for workmanship is quite apparent. Oh how cool I received an Achille St. Onge book titled *Abraham Lincoln – The Song in His Heart!* Another unique book was *Upon Small Types* by Theodore Low De Vinne – such fun to look at the variety of typefaces on each page. It was noted that he made significant contributions to printing.

Yep, I am an avid minibibliophile because I was as excited to receive these books as I was to set sail on our celebratory Hawaii cruise!! 📖

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY NINA!*

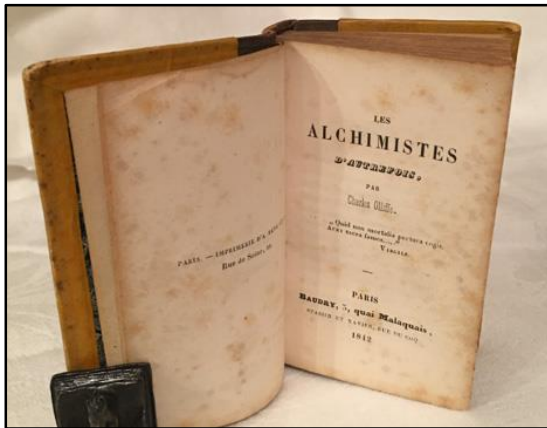


## THE FIRST PURCHASE,

By Darleen Cordova:

In the summer of 1964, friends of my grandparents gave me a combination graduation-birthday present. I smiled, thanked them for the slightly soiled, large pink heart-shaped candy box. I wondered if the contents would still be edible. What a surprise! The box did not contain chocolates but was filled with small books from the last century. Bill explained that the books were miniatures that he and his wife Elsie thought I would enjoy. As a teenager, I did not think about keeping a record of those first books, but I was quickly off and running to find more of these tiny treasures.

My first purchase took place shortly thereafter. On weekends, the La Mirada Drive-in Theater would have a “swap meet” or flea market during the day. As I walked down the rows, I looked for vendors selling books and other vintage items. One man did not even have a table, but was just sitting in a folding chair near the open trunk of his car. I could see he had some regular-sized books in one of the cardboard boxes and stopped. When I asked him if he had any miniature



books, he responded by asking me “On what subject?” Since I didn’t know much about miniatures, and even less about what topics they covered, I told him it didn’t matter. He quickly rummaged through his boxes and said “How about alchemy?” I didn’t even know how much a miniature would cost and was almost afraid to ask the price. I flipped through the book and saw \$9 written in pencil. That I could afford!

I became the proud owner of *Les Alchimistes d’aujourd’hui* by Charles Ollive, published in Paris in 1812. (I carefully recorded that information on a 3 x 5 card since it was my first purchase). In

September 1969, I purchased a copy of the reprint of *The News-Letter of the LXIVMOS* from Dawson’s Book Shop. In the Issue Number 13, the ‘medical edition’, *Index Provisorius Bibliographicus Librorum Minutorum Medicinalium*, dated December 15, 1928, I found a reference to my little book (Index Item Number 20). I never saw that vendor again and I do not think I ever purchased another miniature at that swap meet. Fate at work? 📖

## WHO WAS IT THAT SAID,

**A Bit of a History Question, for your Research:**

“Those who take flight on the magic carpet of the written page gain some of the best travelling companions for this human journey and they too partake of the legacy.” *Answer Barbara Raheb* 📖

## MY VERY FIRST MINIATURE BOOK:

By Rick Hill,

My mother, my grandmother, and my great-grandmother loved to go antique hunting. We would all climb into my mother's Delta 88 Oldsmobile, as it was the only car that had air-conditioning in the family, and off we would go from antique store to antique store. My mother collected miniature pianos, as she was a pianist. My grandmother collected porcelain ring boxes and my great-grandmother sat and watched me. After 15 years of going on the antique circuit every Thursday, my mother said, "Rickey, you need to start collecting something." I was a junior in high school and the thought had never crossed my mind.

For several weeks, I thought about it and searched each antique store for just the right collectable. Carnival glass? Old cartoon characters? Maybe 1930's Mickey Mouse? It was near the end of our regular Thursday outing and there it was. Just sitting on top of an old marble lamp table with some other old things: *Romeo and Juliet* in a most pleasing supple red leather cover. I would learn later that the book was part of the Knickerbocker Leather & Novelty Company's Shakespeare set. I loved my English Literature studies and I knew immediately that this would become a part of my life. I had \$2 and my grandmother gave me the remaining \$1 and I started a 50 plus year journey in collecting miniature books.

On my honeymoon, my new wife and I discovered the complete set in the original red leather box. It was in a little antique store in Georgetown, Colorado and we spent our last \$100 to purchase it. Years later, in a rare bookstore in New York City, I ran across my first contemporary miniature book: Black Cat Press, *A Scandal in Bohemia*. I was shocked to discover that there were people actually still producing miniature books. All of mine were at least 100 years old. I traveled a great deal in those younger years and was able to go to rare bookstores in just about every major city and gather more contemporary miniature books. Then the computer and the WWW slammed into my life and, well, each one of you know the rest of that life story. 📖

## NOT IN BRADBURY, DAILY FOOD,

By Todd Sommerfeld:

While it is almost certain that we have been making miniature books almost as long as we have been able to write. The first 'Golden Age' of miniature books started in the 1830's and continued until about 1870. Robert Bradbury in his publication, *Antique United States Miniature Books, 1690-1900*, lists from that 40-year period (1830-1870) over 900 miniature books published in the United States. The most commonly encountered book from this period is undeniably the Bible. The next most



commonly encountered miniature book is, arguably, 'Daily Food for Christians'. Bradbury notes 31 different editions by 16 publishers printed between 1830 and the turn of the century, but there are many more. I currently have 27 different editions on my shelf by 11 publishers and the most striking feature of the lot is the textual consistency, with only one exception. The size is also most consistent with all editions ranging in height from 3" to 3 5/16". The earliest dated American edition of 'Daily Food' is one published by Perkins and Marvin of Boston in 1830. It is noted on the title page that this is the 'first American from the eighth London edition', so it is evident that there are many, many English editions that I will not discuss with this article.

Bradbury notes that the 1844 edition published by Sanborn and Carter in Portland is the first miniature book printed in Maine, however, I have an 1839 edition bearing the name of Oliver L. Sanborn. Interestingly, I also have one printed by Sanborn in 1834, from Concord, N. H. One other interesting edition is an undated volume published by the Tract Depository located at No. 2 Franklin Building in Baltimore. It was stereotyped by renowned map printer F. Lucas, Jr., also of Baltimore.

What follows is a preliminary list of editions not in Bradbury that I have on my shelf. I have organized them by publisher in the same order that Bradbury uses with publishers NIB at the end of the list.

### **American Tract Society**

1. *Daily Food for Christians*, New York: American Tract Society, 150 Nassau St., ca. 1847, 3 1/8 × 2 1/2, 79 × 63mm, [2] 3-200p. pictorial gilt cloth, (similar to Bradbury #33 but with p. 193-200 added)
2. *Daily Food for Christians*, New York: American Tract Society, Park Ave. and 40th St., 1916, 3 3/16 × 2 1/2, 80 × 63 mm, [2] 3-200p. pictorial gilt cloth. (This is the latest dated edition I have seen)

### **Tappan, Whittmore and Mason**

3. *Daily Food for Christians*, Fifth American from the eighth London edition, Boston: Tappan, Whittmore and Mason, 1854. 3 3/16 × 2 1/2, 80 × 63mm, [192] p. pictorial cloth, Frontis.

### **Oliver L. Sanborn**

4. *Daily Food for Christians*, Concord [NH]: Oliver L. Sanborn, 1834, 2 7/8 × 2 1/4, 73 × 57mm. [192] p. pictorial cloth
5. *Daily Food for Christians*, Portland [ME]: Oliver L. Sanborn, 1839, 2 15/16 × 2 1/4, 75 × 57 mm. [192] p. cloth, printed paper spine label

### **H. A. Young & Co. Young & Bartlett**

6. *Daily Food for Christians*, Boston: Henry A. Young & Co. ca. 1878, 3 3/16 × 2 3/8, 80 × 60mm. [3] 4-192 p. pictorial gilt cloth.
7. *Daily Food for Christians*. Boston: Young & Bartlett, 26 School St., ca. 1879, 3 3/16 × 2 3/8, 80 × 60 mm. [3] 4-192 p. pictorial gilt cloth.

## Thomas Y. Crowell

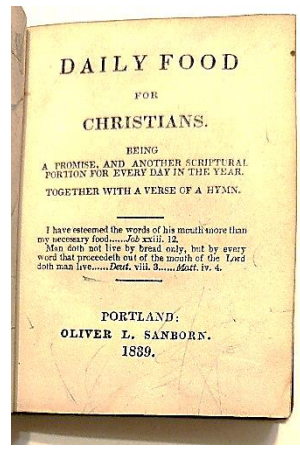
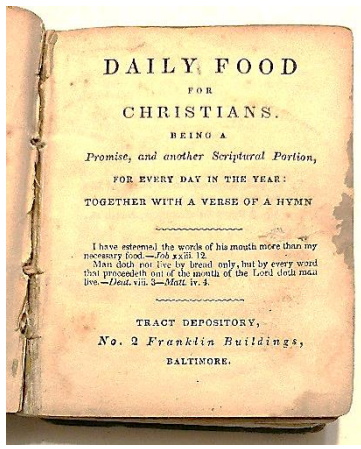
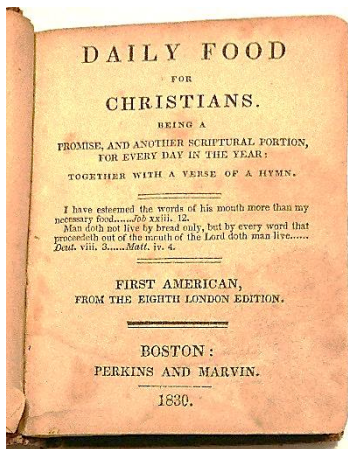
8. *Daily Food for Christians*, New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co. ca. 1876, 3 3/8 × 2 1/2, 85 × 63 mm. [3] 4-192 p. pictorial gilt cloth.
9. *Daily Food for Christians*, New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. Publishers, 3 3/8 × 2 1/2, 85 × 63 mm. [3] 4-192 p. pictorial gilt cloth.
10. *Daily Food for Christians*, New York: T. Y. Crowell, No. 744 Broadway, ca. 1900, 3 3/16 × 2 3/8, 81 × 60 mm. [192] p. pictorial gilt cloth.

## Maryland Sunday School and Tract Depository


11. *Daily Food for Christians*, Baltimore: Tract Depository, No. 2 Franklin Buildings, ca. 1852, 2 15/16 × 2 1/2, 75 × 64 mm. [192] p. pictorial gilt cloth, stereotyped by F. Lucas, Jr.

## T. Nelson and Sons

12. *Daily Food*. New York: T. Nelson and Sons ca. 1910, 3 1/2 × 2 3/8, 89 × 60 mm. [4] 5-192 p., pictorial cloth. (while the verse-a-day format is the same as other editions, different verses are used in this edition.)



So there you have it. I know of about another dozen editions not listed anywhere, and I am sure that there are still others. My request of you, kind collectors, is please look on your shelves to see if you have any additional, unrecorded editions of this title. If you find that you do, please let me know with maybe a photo of the title page so I can add them to my ongoing bibliography.

As always, questions, comments and criticisms to [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) 

Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, 6475 Ridge Road #1, Parma, OH 44129

E-mail: [contratodd@gmail.com](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) or [booksbypress.com](http://booksbypress.com)

## THE YOUNG BIBLIOPHILE, Make A Book In Less Than Ten Minutes:

Sometimes people want to create their own book but the physical tasks of ‘making the book may seem daunting, especially to a ‘newcomer’. The book *How To Make Books*, by Ester K. Smith, published by Purgatory Pie Press, 2007 is a great learning tool with easy to follow instructions and illustrations. The following is their first ‘instant book’ example

Any paper size is fine, your choice, I grabbed some regular bond trimmed to 6" x 11" for starters, the finished book size should be 3" x 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>".

1. Fold the paper lengthwise, (illustration A) and open, Use a bone folder to get a good crisp fold.
2. Fold the paper the second time ‘horizontally, (illustration B).
3. Fold the two open ends back to the fold on the ‘left’. Look carefully at the (illustration C).
4. Open the folds look at (illustration D), cut the slit as shown as the dotted line.
5. Grasping both sides on the middle fold, from the slit, ‘pull apart’ and ‘push down’. Look at (illustration E) as once you get the words and the illustration working it is like riding a bike, you never forget.
6. Fold the paper into your book form; use the bone folder to ‘go over’ the folds, (illustration F).
7. Now you have the basics for an 8 page ‘instant book’.
8. You can add a piece of cardstock to the front and rear page to ‘stiffen’ things up or change the color etc.
9. You can hand write your text to give it that old world feel or type the text on another paper and then glue it into the basic instant book.
10. You can draw your own illustrations or tip in a picture to define your story. A.J. St. Onge and Msgr. Francis J. Weber made extensive use of tipped in pictures and postage stamps in their wonderful miniature publications.

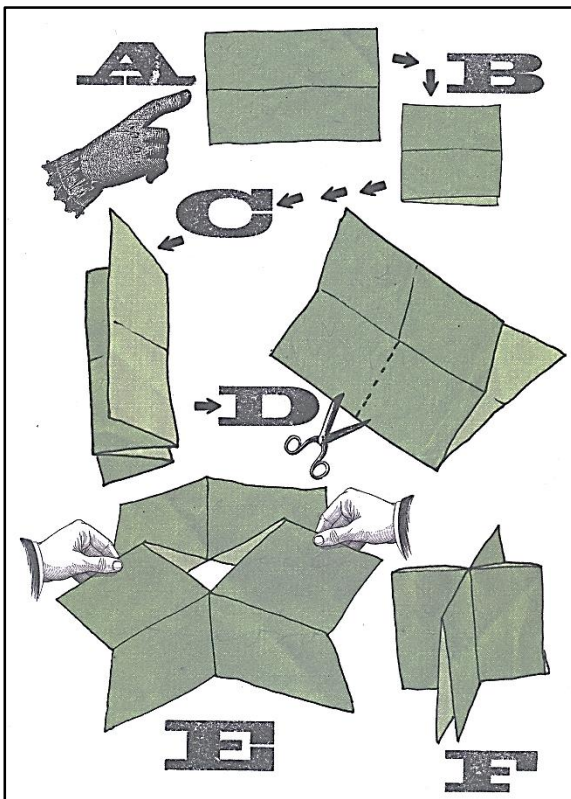


Illustration from ‘How To Make Books’ by Ester Smith

I think this is a great way to get started, the first book for a young bibliophile to record a special occasion, make a gift, or just be creative and share with friends. An adult may even think of making a Conclave keepsake with this easy format. Gordon Murray used another simple format to create his keepsake for the 1990 MBS Conclave in Glasgow; there is a picture of it on this issue’s front cover, *My Heart’s In The Highlands*. Get busy, good luck and happy book making. 📖

## THE LEGACY,

By Msgr. Francis J. Weber:

Several years ago, the talented producer of dollhouse books, Barbara J. Raheb, decided to create and encapsulate a medieval scene from Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset. That ancient abbey had always fascinated Barbara, probably because it was there that Joseph of Arimathea reportedly deposited the chalice used in the Last Supper. A further tradition has it that the Glastonbury Thorn, which blooms each year at Christmas time, sprang from the staff Joseph used to en route to the west of England.

In as much as the monks at Glastonbury dedicated their lives to gathering and preserving the wisdom of the ages, Barbara chose to portray in diorama form a *scriptorium*, the tiny cell and antechamber where monks spent long days copying the classics by hand on crisp parchment and thick vellum.

Almost 200 working hours later, *The Legacy* was finished. Barbara constructed it in such a way that all scrolls and books, each hand painted and enhanced with gold leaf, can be removed, read and enjoyed. Electric circuitry allows for both music and illumination of the two-room diorama. Presented to the writer on July 14, 1985, *The Legacy* served as the centerpiece in the exhibit mounted for Grand Conclave III during the visit of the Miniature Book society to southern California.

The seated monk, robed in traditional mendicant habit and wearing the canonical tonsure, uses a quill to put the finishing touches on the last page of an alleluia refrain.

Standing in front of the writing table is a Shetland sheep dog, typical canine of those parts, its ears cocked to his master's voice. To the rear of the dog is a faldstool where guests could sit while conversing with the monk.

It is mid-day and outside the room can be seen the rolling countryside with a streamlet rolling gently across the meadow. On the windowsill is a tiny statue of Saint Francis holding a dove in his left hand.

On the rectangular table, in front of the dual windows, is a jar of pumice which was customarily used to dry the ink and coloring agents. At night and on dark days, the room is illuminated by four candles. Hanging over the fireplace is a kettle of boiling water for tea.

Of special interest to miniature enthusiasts are the eight scrolls, six of them stored neatly in compartments of the writing desk. Each is hand-illuminated in full color and easily readable.

On one scroll is the complete text of the OUR FATHER in Latin. Another reproduces the SANCTUS set to the four-line staff of GREGO-MARIA chant and a third bears the colorful phraseology of the AVE MARIA in bright red illumination. The longest scroll in the bottom level is crammed with "Interesting Information" about *The Legacy*. The second drawer contains real gold leaf, burnishers and a steel-edged knife used to sharpen goose quills.


The miniature books in the diorama, all hand-calligraphed and illustrated, include the LIBER CULINARIA containing numerous Medieval recipes, the MEMENTO MORI with Bible verses referring to the mortality of humankind, and a Psalter with excerpts from the Book of Psalms.

On the prie-dieu in the antechamber is a rosary, hand-fashioned from tiny Victorian beads. Chained to the prie-dieu is a King James version of the Holy Bible and overhead is a small, but devotional rendition of the crucifixion. To the right of the windowsill is a statue of Our Lady of

Loretto. Behind the door is a hidden switch which activates a musical rendition of the monastery carillons.

On the settle attached to the wall are two scrolls together with a LIBER SANCTORUM containing illustrations of the saints whose lives are described. The other book is a CHANSONS DE NOEL with its songs of Christmas in English. Each of the carols is illustrated with Medieval woodblock prints.

In the closet are three additional miniature tomes: a *Book of Cleves*, an *ODE TO A 13<sup>th</sup> CENTURY MANUSCRIPT*, and the greatest treasure of all—a manuscript with its “tiny tale told in two parts,” wherein Barbara Raheb relates the story of the diorama and its relationship to the recipient.


This volume is unique, insofar as it is totally written, calligraphed, and illustrated by Mrs. Raheb to accompany the diorama. To know Barbara is a joy in itself, but to possess one of her dioramas (there are two others: one in the possession of Mary Helen Dawson and the other owned by Miriam Irwin), is a privilege beyond expression. Perhaps Barbara herself captured the thrill of owning the diorama when she wrote, “Those who take flight on the magic carpet of the written page gain some of the best travelling companions for this human journey and they too partake of the legacy.” 

*Editor's Note: This article was originally published in the January 1986 issue of 'The Microbibliophile' and reprinted with the 'Little Books by Big People', by Msgr. Weber and published by the Opuscula Press in 1993. 'Where is the diorama today?'*

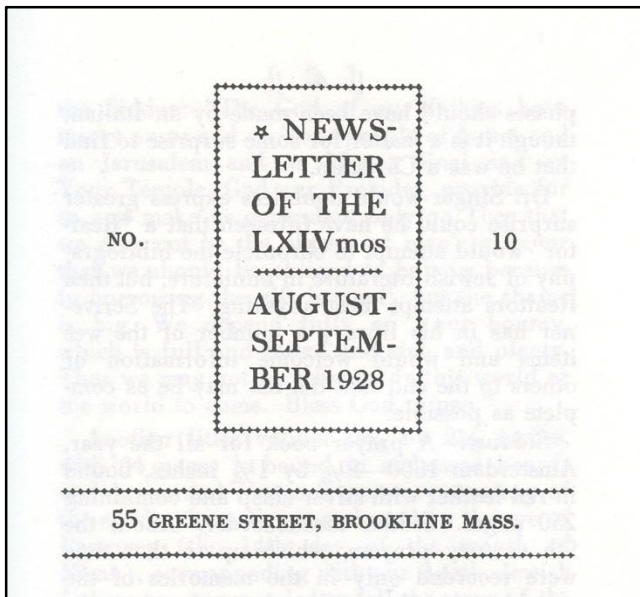
## GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

Next issue, Volume XXXVII, Number 4 Issue 208 (expected publish date; July 1, 2017).  
Reading is a great experience, sharing what we have read is a blessing.

- ‘An Antiquarian Delight’, TBD, a special miniature bible
- *Steam Engines*, to be published by Tony Firman, Plum Park Press
- The Young Bibliophile
- ‘Spine Nicked, Slightly Foxed, Else Fine’, catalogue terms and usage...
- ‘Out of the Box’, Help Needed, somebody please pick this one up for me....
- Certainly something special from Pat Sweet and Bo Press
- Maybe something special by Madeline Thoman, the lady in Paris
- More about the special publications of the NOBS
- Nina Mazzo, LXIVMOS Number 12
- How to use the [www.themicrobibliophile.com](http://www.themicrobibliophile.com) and the BLOG
- How about something from you? ‘Always room at the inn, we will leave the light on.’

Keep me posted on what is going on at your press or with your collection. Anticipation and searching is half of the fun. We all love the details. 

**TIME MACHINE,  
The News-Letter of the LXIVmos, Number 10:  
By Nina Mazzo**



“We have with us today” – Editor James Henderson writes, as he introduces his readers to some new members. I chuckled as I read– “Out in Muncie, Indiana, they make fruit jars. Ball Brothers is the firm. Mr. George Ball has cast his lot among us.”

This issue was packed with curiosities and truly interesting tidbits! They include the following:

\* Member William Lewis Washburn of the Palmetto Press is in the process of issuing a miniature book titled: *The Will of Elder John White of Hartford with a Sketch of His Life*. It will be printed in black letter after a 16th century font. (Note; Bromer’s has a copy in their catalog for \$125- \$300)

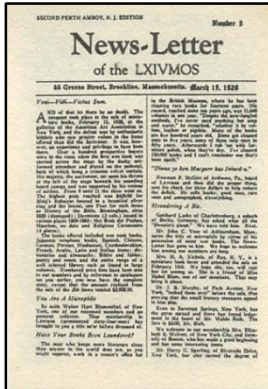
\*An inquiry from Miss Elsie Schaufler, chief of the order department of the public library in Oakland, California states she has no collection of miniature books. (Note; As our Conclave will be in Oakland this summer, am wondering if they ever did purchase or receive any miniature books.)

\* Have you ever heard of a Cho-Cho or Chi-Chi? It is a fortune-telling device in Japanese




and Chinese. The text is on folded accordion sheets with bamboo ends and accompanying it is a wooden hexagonal cylinder with bone ends containing bone sticks. You shake the box and a numbered bone stick pops out and you compare it to the text and read the fortune.

\* I am thrilled to have a miniature copy of the News-Letter (see photo). It was printed by William Rudge and mailed to members in 1928. It measures 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 1".



\* The club issued a publication by Wilbur Macey Stone— *John Taylor's Thumb Bible* and you could order one for \$3.25. (Note; current price is \$165- anyone own one?)

Finally, Mr. Henderson ends issue #10 from New York telling readers to watch for issue #11 to be printed and mailed from Munich, Germany. Additionally, The Scrivener partakes in a bit of 'written dialogue' with Harry Stone, the proprietor of a New York bookshop. "And now, Harry, when we said good bye to our hosts in Paris in August with an *"Au Revoir"* in their language of the country, in leaving good old New York shall we use again the vernacular and say, *So Long Harry.*" 

Contact information: Nina Mazzo 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 92651,  
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com



## ANTIQUARIAN DELIGHT, Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám:

In the March issue of *The Microbibliophile*, we discussed a miniature set of Shakespeare works, and the fact that the Bard's works are one of the most frequently published genre in miniature format. High on the list is *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám* that famous title that was translated by Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883) from a group of poems originally written in Persian, attributed to the Persian poet, mathematician, and astronomer Omar Kháyyám.

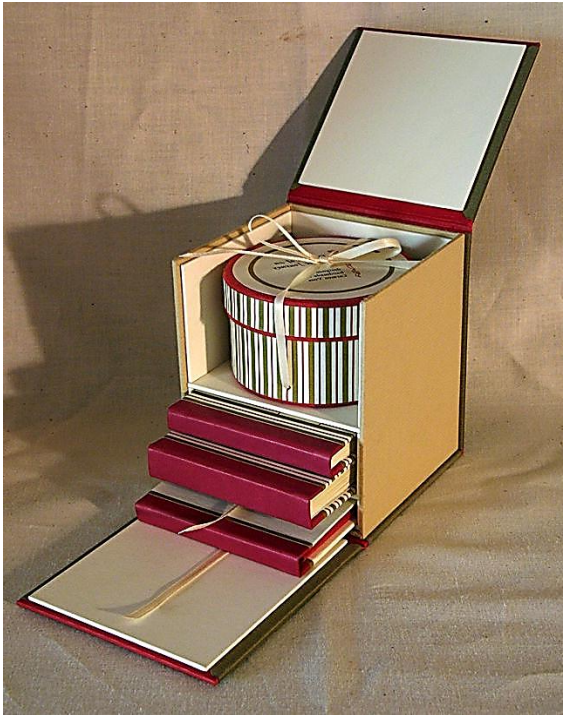
This particular edition measures 3½" x 2¼" and is bound in a lightweight olive-brown paper cover. The interesting feature is the very detailed colored illustration of a peacock in full plumage, attached to the cover. The border of the front and rear covers is printed with an intricate vine motif. The book does not carry a publication date but some quick research places its origin with the Leopold B. Hill Company of London about the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The endpapers on both the front and rear of the book are done in an olive paper and display the flowers of the vines on the covers.



The title page also carries a 'printer's mark from the Hill company. There are 123 numbered pages, in the first section of the book, 31 pages are devoted to the life and work of Omar Khayyám. The next section contains 75 different quatrains. The final section of the book is a 15-page section of notes about the various poems and the word usage interpretations from the original poems. Because of this last section, I believe this tome to have been originally published as a 'student/learning' edition.

I could not locate a similar volume on the 'Vialibri' search site but perhaps you may be able to provide more information about this to me. 📖

**BOOKS THAT ARE OUT OF THE BOX,  
'Oh, These VANITIES', by Carmon Voss, Lyceum Press, 2010:**



When we speak of books that are ‘out of the box’, the original description that we anticipated was to share books that are done in a format other than a traditional ‘case book’. *Oh These Vanities* is such a unique package both in presentation and subject matter that I wanted to share it with the readership, just the same. The edition included only 20 copies of this set of tomes, so hopefully it will be as captivating for your eyes as it was for mine. Ladies hats, those creation of yesterday that set the stage for the wearer of the hat. The author’s Introduction explains, “I love to wear hats. Whenever the opportunity arises to wear one, I do. And I love to see others wearing them, whether they be man or woman, young or old, or in between. Whether it is somber or silly, the well-chosen hat is like a beam of light breaking through the clouds. It gives the wearer an air of style, self-assurance, and grace.”

The suite is housed in a 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 4" tall drop-front and lid box covered in a fine paper wrap to imitate a hatbox closed with ribbon ties. As you untie the ribbons and lift the lid the first thing you see is round hatbox tied with another fine ribbon. The drop front panel reveals two miniature books, Volume I and Volume II.

The text and color plate volumes measure  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " and are quarter bound in maroon leather and printed-paper over boards. The page text volume is set in eight point Monotype Garamont and letterpress printed in three colors throughout, with seven tipped-in illustrations. The volume of plates (Volume II) includes an additional twenty-four tipped-in illustrations and one folded insert. All of the components were produced using archival quality acid-free materials.

The third major component is a portfolio of original miniature paintings by the author/artist Carmen Voss. The bound measurement is  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " and is quarter bound in maroon leather. The dry-brush gouache images, done on Arches hot press watercolor paper, were selected as iconic designs in the history of hats. The attention to detail is outstanding; each is identified by style and date on the back and signed by the artist.

Going back to the 'first thing we see' when we open the box, the fourth component is the 'hat box'. It is by no means the least, each suite comes with a unique, hand-made miniature hat in its own hat box, 3" in diameter and about  $1\frac{5}{8}$ " tall, bound in the same fine paper as Volumes I and II. Opening the hatbox reveals the handmade miniature hat, made of fine materials and ribbon, the box lid carries a label with the 'name of the hat'. The hats and their names are each unique within the edition. The hat name in this suite is '*A Juicy Tale To Tell*', I will only say that the top of the hat carries an image of what appears to be a refreshing afternoon drink with a twist of lime on the rim of a fine china glass. With that, I will let your imagination finish the tale. 📖

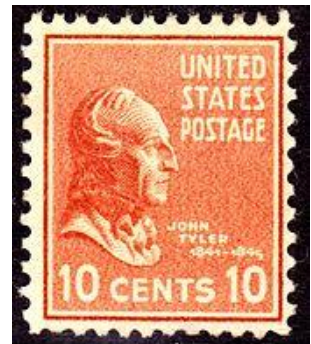
## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

"I can never consent to being dictated to as to what I shall or shall not do. I as President, shall be responsible for my administration."

**(Cabinet meeting, 1841)**

Tenth President of the United States, 1841 -1845

**John Tyler 1790 - 1862**



**LETTER TO THE EDITOR,  
From Msgr. Francis J. Weber, 04 April 2017**

**San Fernando Mission**

15151 San Fernando Mission Blvd.

Mission Hills, California 91345

(818) 361-0186

Fax (818) 361-3276

Archival Center  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Bob Hope  
Memorial Garden

April 4, 2017

James Brogan  
The Microbibliophile  
Box 5453  
North Branch, NJ 08876

Dear James,

Someone recently asked me why the term "conclave" is associated with the annual meetings of the Miniature Book Society. Good question

It all started in 1982, with a trip to California by Miriam Owen Irwin, a miniature book collector and long-time customer of Dawson's Book Shop in Los Angeles. I was one of those invited to a party honoring Miriam at the residence of the late Glen Dawson, 141 Anita Drive in Pasadena.

It was there that Miriam and Glen came up with the idea of a national gathering of miniature enthusiasts. Miriam generously offered her family home in Tipp City, Ohio as a focal point for this meeting, located as it was in the Center of the country.

The next year Glen, Mary Helen and I flew to Cincinnati where we gathered at the nearby Owen farm with almost seventy other collectors and dealers.

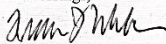
The late Rabbi Kalman Levitan is often referred to as the "founder" of the MBS. But I have always thought that honor belongs to Miriam Owen Irwin.

Anyway, when the proposal was made to have annual meetings, it was Mary Helen Dawson who suggested the term "conclave", a term long associated with the gathering of cardinals for the election of a Pope.

By the way Kalman Levitan was a terribly interesting man with a very mysterious background. Early in life he was a secret service agent who worked in the Caiman Islands, though he never liked to talk about it.

P.S. Do you have my "grown-up" book  
*Little Books by Big People?* There are  
Essays there you might use for the  
*Microbibliophile*.

Blessings,



Msgr. Francis J. Weber  
Administrator

It is always a pleasure to get feedback and information from the readership, Thank you. 📖

## **SOME INTERESTING BOOK STUFF, Information Sharing:**

### **The Creativity Caravan, <http://thecreativitycaravan.com/>**

The Creativity Caravan, The Tiny Book Show, the adventure continues with many different activities, check out their calendar. In addition, take time to visit the 'Shop' for a great selection of miniature books with a very diverse subject set.

### **ABAA, Newsletter, <http://www.abaa.org/blog> (sign-up for the newsletter)**

The newsletter that is electronically distributed by the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America is a great source of bibliophile related information and ongoing events. The article; 'Editing Shakespeare' by Rich Rennicks outlines how someone who has been dead for 400 years continues to get as much press as he does. There is also an interesting selection of 'security news', i.e. books that have been stolen or 'lost in transit'. A learning experience with every click. Always something interesting, be it an article or a link for a seasoned collector or a young bibliophile.

### **FBS, Newsletter, <http://www.floridabibliophilesociety.org/>**

The lights are always burning late into the night at the editorial office of the FBS newsletter. The Florida Bibliophile Society's monthly 2017 digital newsletter is a well-done publication filled with great information and activities within the book world. The April issue carries a wide range of informative topics about books and literature; Typographical Borders, Printing the Ancient Way, how things work in a printing lamasery. Most interesting, I thought, is an article about a book titled *War Virgin, My Journey of Repression, Temptation, and Liberation*, by Laura Westly, a West Point graduate. Not a miniature book but interesting stuff for sure.

### **Book Club of Detroit Newsletter, <http://www.bookclubofdetroit.org/newsletter/>**

The newsletter is digitally published three times a year and edited by Paula Jarvis who does an outstanding job keeping the readers informed about information of interest to the bibliophile. The February issue of the newsletter, which is titled 'Printed and Bound' includes an in-depth article about 'Tom Sawyer' and another article about something all book collectors are always looking for, 'bookshelves'. Much more for your reading pleasure inside the newsletter.

### **PBA Galleries, <http://www.pbagalleries.com>**

Another great auction site for the appraisal, sale, and purchase of books. Online auctions are like a completely new world if you have never participated. There is a special miniature book auction scheduled for August 2017, check out their website and create an account so you can participate in an auction or get on the email distribution list. It is all great fun for sure.

**Eden Workshops**, <http://www.edenworkshops.com>

The website is filled with many special offers regarding 'book making tutorials, book binding articles, and even decorative box making. The list goes on and on.

**The Morgan Conservatory**, <http://www.morganconservatory.org>

This is the largest arts center in the United States dedicated to every facet of papermaking, book arts, and letterpress printing. It is located in a converted industrial building in Cleveland, OH.

**Sheppard's Confidential**, <http://www.sheppardsconfidential.com>

A site that provides a large selection of information about antiquarian and second-hand books, ephemera, etc. Most importantly there is a good selection of current information about book fairs and auctions. The pages are published weekly as a way to keep things most current. The company headquarters is based in Devon, UK, so the site does provide a slightly different view of things as we normally see from North American sponsors.

**Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society**, <http://nobs.nobsweb.org/>

I am looking forward to the next newsletter from this organization, Todd Sommerfeld has accepted the position as the new editor and we all know that Todd like to write about books. The organization also hosts the NOBS Cleveland Antiquarian Book and Paper Show, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**The Book Thinker**, <http://www.bookthink.com/>

The Book Thinker is an online resource that is published/updated twice monthly. The main focus is information for 'booksellers', I would mention commercial booksellers but every collector can sell a book now and again. Another site that is rich in the information that it provides; forums about books, additional links for information, book topics, etc. etc. etc.

**The Miniature Book Society**, <http://www.mbs.org>

Be sure to visit this site, as there should be some updates with the latest Newsletter as well as a full PDF copy of the 2016 Competition Catalogue. Be sure to visit the new 'presentations' section and read all about the 2017 Conclave scheduled for August in Oakland, CA, 'just a BART ride' across the bay from the cable cars.

**The Book Source Magazine**, (*online only*), <http://www.booksourcemagazine.com>

A lot of book related information including links to major libraries, used books stores, and book related activities and exhibits. Sometimes the information branches a far from the specific book topics but interesting never the less.

**TIDBIT:** According to a BLOG entry on the FB&C site, a man was able to purchase an old wooden ‘stage coach trunk’ at an auction in Kansas City, in 2015. After a good amount of research and authentication, it turns out that the trunk belonged to Samuel Clemens, that wonder of American literature. Well, in the last issue I said, “we will have to see how this story unfolds”.

Well the story does unfold with time. There is an interesting post on the Heritage Auctions site,



<http://historical.ha.com> about this famous trunk.

“**[Mark Twain]. Stagecoach Trunk once owned by Samuel L. Clemens.** St. Louis, Missouri: J. Barwick Trunk Manufacturer, circa 1865. Dome-top, single compartment stagecoach trunk, likely purchased by Clemens in 1867 while he was in St. Louis, with "Property of / Samuel L. Clemens" painted in black on the outside of the lid. Approximately 9500 cubic inches, measuring roughly 18 x 18 x 30 inches. Original leather covering, geometric patterns tooled in black, with six wooden slats and two center-bands and matching binding, four edge clamps, lock, hinges, handle caps; interior lined with patterned paper, original tray fitting, later woven strap affixed to right side of interior to prevent further over-opening. General wear, as expected, lacking original handles, latches and interior tray; large portion of paper lining removed from interior of lid, damp stain to the bottom interior. An astounding artifact from arguably the most important author in American literature.”

Log-on to the site and get the full story, even better put a bid in on this ‘one of a kind’ trunk. How ‘kewl’ would it be to arrive at the Conclave Book Fair with all of your books in such a trunk.

Collecting is an ever-changing and ongoing educational experience. Being a miniature book collector can be a full time job. One thing leads to another as we travel the globe and look through the bookshelves across the world, via the various publications and the electronic links. Pack your socks, get a map, and grab your keyboard or smart phone, and HAVE FUN. 📖



## **MORE ABOUT COOKBOOKS, Always Something New to Learn:**

After an article about miniature cookbooks, written by Bob Hanson, in the January issue of *The Microbibliophile* and receipt of an 'expanded list' of miniature cookbooks, submitted by Caroline Brandt, I did some additional research and asked our readers just who, in addition to Caroline collects miniature cookbooks. Darleen Cordova has supplied the following images of a few of the cookbooks in her collection.



There is always room for a few more books on the shelf; especially if they can help you make a dinner, a cold drink, or a great dessert. 📖

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:

*Fine Books and Collections Magazine*, Spring 2017, a large format, full color, glossy magazine devoted to fine books, collections, and printing. The staff at the FB&C magazine does an outstanding job in bringing a very diverse set of informative article to the readers. The issue celebrates 'Emily Dickenson's renaissance into the 21<sup>st</sup> century'. Also included is a large spread on the 'history of photography' shown in 100 images. Certainly well worth the subscription price and their 'online production' is equally well done, always bright and always something new for the reader; a great archive section and many things that you may or may not know about within the world of books. The online information is refreshed very frequently. Take a look at the 'Bright Young Librarians', 'Young Booksellers', and the 'Young Collectors' on the BLOG. Contact information: Rebecca Rego Barry, Editor, 4905 Pine Cone Drive #2, Durham, NC, 27707, E-mail: [Rebecca@finebooksmagazine.com](mailto:Rebecca@finebooksmagazine.com), [www.finebooksmagazine.com](http://www.finebooksmagazine.com) . 📖

*Das Miniaturbuch*, January 2017. This 24-page journal is printed in German and done on glossy paper with full color. This issue included a 4 page recap of the MBS 2016 Book Competition as well as a 1 page article about the upcoming 2017 MBS Conclave in Oakland. <http://www.minibuch-berlin.de>. Always something going on with this group of bibliophiles! 📖

*Artist Book News*, Spring 2017. A two page full color glossy announcement highlighting six different book artists, including Fran Watson, Joelle Leavitt Webber, Emily Marks, Susan Lowdermilk, Jill Timm, and Patrice Miuller. Some miniature books, some not so miniature. The web address is [www.artistbooknews.com](http://www.artistbooknews.com), it is edited by Jill Timm. 📖

**Old Farmhouse Books** -- offering miniature books and ephemera to the discerning collector. Inquiries are always welcome and current and past catalog lists are available upon request to: [oldfarmhouse@gmail.com](mailto:oldfarmhouse@gmail.com) or [oldfarmhouse@myfairpoint.net](mailto:oldfarmhouse@myfairpoint.net). The newest list contains miniature books themed on the alphabet representing various authors, presses, and publishers. In the works is a listing of miniatures less than 1" x 1". All lists are set-up in Excel format. Thank you for your interest, Sherry 📖



Advertisement 📖

## CATALOGUES RECEIVED:

**Karen Nyman Miniature Books**, Catalog Number 67, very well done and well organized for easy viewing, 104 items with many pictures, a very good selection of antiquarian, children's, and rare books in an electronic format catalogue. Two major sections of the catalogue are books up to 11/4" and those over 11/4" tall. Additionally, if you are on Karen's mailing list she also offers the 'special of the week book' with a great sale price.

Contact info: 702 Rosecrans Street, San Diego, CA 92106-3013, telephone 619-226-4441, website: [www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com](http://www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com), E-mail: [karennyman2@cox.net](mailto:karennyman2@cox.net)

**Between the Covers Rare Books**, 'African-American', Catalogue 213, 8½" x 11", is their latest catalogue, contains 102 items including signed and inscribed first editions, artworks, and much more.

Contact info: 112 Nicholson Road, Gloucester City, NJ 08030, telephone 856-456-8008; website: [www.betweenthecovers.com](http://www.betweenthecovers.com), E-mail: [mail@betweenthecovers.com](mailto:mail@betweenthecovers.com)

**Bromer Booksellers**, E-Catalogue 47, no paper, just online, 86 items, very attractive presentations of many outstanding books. Several antiquarian books and several 'special editions'. A really fine selection including several Breed and Butler books as well as books published by Anne and David Bromer and some more books published by the Catharjine Press. Contact info: 607 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, telephone 617-247-2818, website: [www.bromer.com](http://www.bromer.com), E-mail: [books@bromer.com](mailto:books@bromer.com)

Catalogues and the booksellers are wonderful friends and great resources. Catalogues are like a bag of penny candy for me, just dig in, and do not stop until you finish the last piece. Keep them in a basket next to your reading chair, summer or winter, it is always fun to revisit a catalogue, a great activity for any day but especially a rainy day, what more can I say? What is your favorite catalogue and bookseller? 📖



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair**, Ann Arbor, MI, May 21<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <http://annarborbookfair.com/>

**London International Antiquarian Book Fair**, London, England, June 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017  
60<sup>th</sup> Year

Additional information: <http://www.olympiabookfair.com/>

**Rose City Book and Paper Show**, Portland, OR, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <http://www.cascadebooksellers.com/>

**Chicago Book and Paper Show**, Chicago, IL, June 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <http://www.mwaba.com/Chicago-book-paper-fair>

**Twin Cities Antiquarian Book Fair**, St. Paul, MN, June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <https://twincitiesbookfair.com/>

**NOBS 2017 Cleveland Antiquarian Book and Paper Show**, Shaker Heights, OH,  
September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <http://nobs.nobsweb.org/welcome-to-the-northern-ohio-bibliophilic-society/nobs-cleveland-antiquarian-book-paper-show/>

**MBS Conclave**, Oakland, CA, August 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <http://www.mbs.org>

**PBA GALLERIES**, San Francisco, CA, ‘a miniature book  
auction,’ The Library of a Gentleman Collector’,

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Additional information: <http://www.pbagalleries.com>

No reason to stay home; plenty to do and plenty of dates  
and places...get ready, pack a PB&J for lunch, get your  
hat, get on your bicycle, or roller skates and meet some  
new friends! 📖



## **INTERNET VIDEO ENTERTAINMENT AND ENLIGHTENMENT, Reported by Arno Gschwendtner:**

Interesting stuff about books, fun for a rainy day or any day.

### **DIGITAL MAGIC**

If you ever wondered about how things were transferred from print to digital formats, this is your keyway. The world's largest book is icing on the cake...

<https://hyperallergic.com/375669/watch-the-british-library-digitize-one-of-the-worlds-largest-books/>

### **HARN MUSEUM, TINY TREASURES**

The best gifts come in tiny packages; this exhibit will be in place at the museum through November 2018. If you can do a road trip the Harn Museum, is in Gainesville, Florida. If your car is out of gas, visit via the web link.

[http://www.biblio.com/blog/2017/03/show-mini-exhibit-harn-museum-full-tiny-treasures/?utm\\_source=Biblio.com+Complete+List&utm\\_campaign=2ff55e11e2-Rare\\_Finds+65+4%2F4&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c63007520b-2ff55e11e2-54116309](http://www.biblio.com/blog/2017/03/show-mini-exhibit-harn-museum-full-tiny-treasures/?utm_source=Biblio.com+Complete+List&utm_campaign=2ff55e11e2-Rare_Finds+65+4%2F4&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c63007520b-2ff55e11e2-54116309)

### **GUTTENBERG BIBLE PAGES USED AS A BOOK WRAPPER!**


This is hard to believe but you just never know what can be discovered in a box of old books. Sometimes putting on your hat and sunglasses and following a few street ads for garage sales may just turn up the prize of a lifetime. Sometimes you get lucky and sometimes you may meet a new bibliophile.

<https://blogs.princeton.edu/notabilia/2017/04/18/princeton-acquires-a-vellum-fragment-of-the-gutenberg-bible-preserved-as-a-book-cover/>

### **RUSSIAN SCHOLARS UNLOCK THE MYSTERIOUS VOYNICH MANUSCRIPT**

The manuscript is kept at the Yale University Beinecke Library. If you have never heard or seen this manuscript, read on, as it is some story about a book written in the 15th century and found a hundred years ago in a trunk....

[https://rbth.com/science\\_and\\_tech/2017/04/20/russian-scholars-unlock-the-secret-of-the-mysterious-voynich-manuscript\\_746881](https://rbth.com/science_and_tech/2017/04/20/russian-scholars-unlock-the-secret-of-the-mysterious-voynich-manuscript_746881)

Sometimes it is if fun to just do a few clicks and visit something new. Who knows where the screen will lead you , maybe around the corner or around the globe the world of miniature books is an endless journey. These actual links will appear on our website [www.themicrobibliophile.com](http://www.themicrobibliophile.com) shortly, so you can type them into your browser or do a copy and paste from the website. I have not underlined the addresses as some of them contain special characters. HAVE FUN! A special thank you to Arno for his ever present topic searching. 

# Miniature Books at Oak Knoll

Take **20% off** when you shop online!  
Enter **MINI20** at checkout to redeem.



Browse our stock of over 1,300 books at  
[www.oakknoll.com/mini](http://www.oakknoll.com/mini)!  
Personalized quotes and catalogs available upon request.

## OAK KNOLL BOOKS

310 DELAWARE STREET, NEW CASTLE, DE 19720  
(800) 996-2556 | [WWW.OAKKNOLL.COM](http://WWW.OAKKNOLL.COM)

**MICROBIBLIOPHILE July 2017 FRONTISPIECE:  
‘Write the Story for the July Issue’:**

Here is your opportunity to become an accomplished and published ‘master of the pen’. The image will be used as the frontispiece for the July 2017 issue of *The Microbibliophile*.



What could possibly be more fun for three classmates than a trip to the library and then reading to each other from their new found treasures? Venecia has a travel book about San Francisco, she is explaining about the cable cars and the big red bridge. “The hills are so steep the cars have to be pulled up by cables buried in the streets.” Katherine selected a special storybook about a girl and her dog that they adopted from the shelter and trained as a ‘therapy dog’. They visit children in the hospital, “I want to be a nurse when I grow up”. Elizabeth has a book about a girl with long blond hair who lives in a castle, in a faraway country. “How far is it to Corona?”

The deadline for submitting articles for the July 2017 issue will be June 15, 2017, electronic or paper submissions, either way, the choice is yours.

Email: [hello@themicrobibliophile.com](mailto:hello@themicrobibliophile.com) or **(NEW EMAIL ADDRESS)**

Snail-mail: *The Microbibliophile*, P. O. Box 5453, North Branch, NJ 08876. 📖

# Big Magazine for Small Collectors

*Fine Books & Collections* covers the entire book collecting world. So even if your area of interest is miniature books, you'll find much to enjoy in every issue. Stay connected to the big picture, even if your collecting interests are quite a bit smaller.

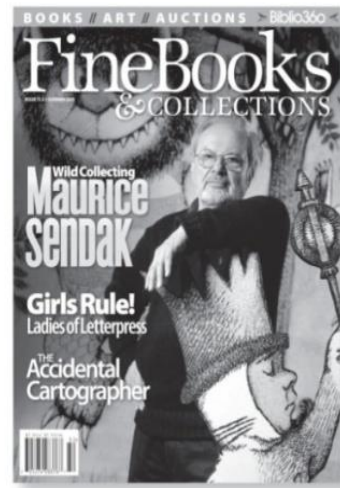
**"FB&C is the only magazine I read cover to cover."** J. WEST

To subscribe, visit:

**[www.finebooksmagazine.com/subscribe](http://www.finebooksmagazine.com/subscribe)**

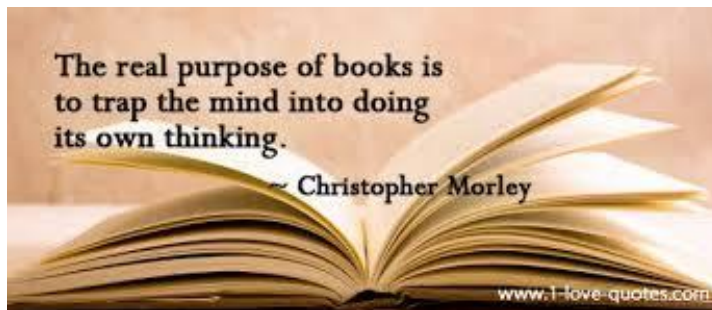
Just \$19.98 per year (U.S. delivery).

Money back guarantee if not delighted.



**FineBooks**  
& COLLECTIONS

Advertisement 





## CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

### Buy, Sell, or Trade:

As a feature for subscribers, *'The Microbibliophile'* will offer a classified listing service with each issue. Each message should be no more than 250 characters. Send your information to the Editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Darleen Cordova is looking for (Hazeltine) Piso Pocket Book Almanac for 1918 to complete her set and two books written by Francis J. Weber: the 1997 regular edition of *Dogs at the California Missions*, (REM Miniatures) and the 1969 vellum bound edition of *What Happened to Junipero Serra?*  
Contact information: E-mail: [c.cordova@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.cordova@sbcglobal.net)

Melinda Brown is seeking, Takebayashi, Tetsu and Zensaku Toyohara. Volumes 3 and 4 of the four-volume set entitled *Kitō Shōno*.  
*Osaka*: Aoki Kozaburo, 1880.  
Contact information: E-mail: [Minibks1@verizon.net](mailto:Minibks1@verizon.net)

Neale Albert is looking for two miniature books by Asao Hoshino -- *Kwaidan* and *Ichiaku No Suna*, and for the special editions of the Asao Hoshino books. "I am thinking of doing a Hoshino bibliography",  
Contact information: E-mail: [nma8156@yahoo.com](mailto:nma8156@yahoo.com)

Katherine Bakunas is looking for the printed (original paper) copies of the early MBS Newsletters, MAR.'85, JUN.'85, FEB.'86, MAR '88 and #36, #45, #60, #63, #65, and #69, for a special indexing project,  
Contact information: E-mail: [kbbakunas@gmail.com](mailto:kbbakunas@gmail.com)


Karen Nyman is looking for two volumes she lacks from *The Cabinet of Lilliput*, by John Harris. Here are the missing titles: *Jacob the Fisherman*, etc., and *Julia and the Dog*, etc.  
Contact information: E-mail: [karennyman2@cox.net](mailto:karennyman2@cox.net) or call 619-226-4441.

Pat Pistner is looking for 28 Raheb books (*Mudlark Miniatures* and *Littlest Library*) published in 1976 and 1977, and only 19 published  
Contact information: E-mail: [Pistner@me.com](mailto:Pistner@me.com)

Caroline Brandt would like to find a copy of *Robin Crusoe* and *The Happy Flower* published by Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. Contact information: 1500 Westbrook Court #1109, Richmond, VA 23227, or call 804-200-1260

Arno Gschwendtner is looking for a French miniature book (MB) ca. 1830: *Bernardin: Paul et Virginie* (printed from Didot) - he wants to write an article about this book - please send pictures (and an offer) of your edition. He is also looking for 'Special Editions' of the Catharijne Press as well as Editions du Capricorne from Anick Butre (France). In addition, for interesting MBs older than 200 years and especially for special bindings.  
Contact information: E-mail: [arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch](mailto:arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch) or +41/78/8542422

Jim Brogan is looking for a volume from REM publications; *REM Miniatures, A Record and A Sampler, Part III*, a 'miniature scroll' with decorative wrapper and tie ribbon, 1<sup>15</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" x 6"  
Contact information: E-mail: [jbrogan1@verizon.net](mailto:jbrogan1@verizon.net)

**Free for the printing!** 



## BUSINESS CARD ADVERTISING:

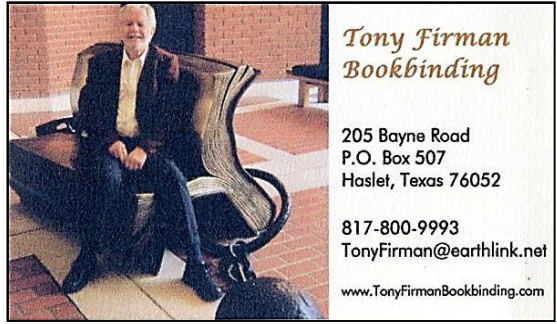


**Karen Nyman**  
Miniature Books

702 Rosecrans Street  
San Diego CA 92106-3013  
USA

*FREE catalog upon request*

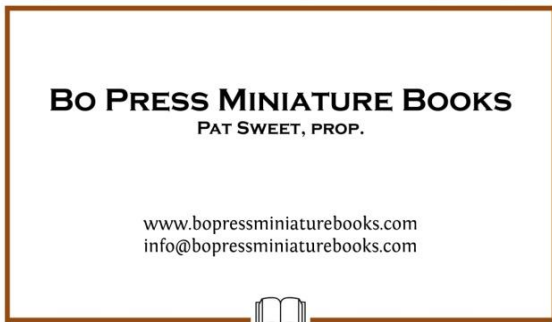
619-226-4441  
karennyman2@cox.net  
www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com



**Tony Firman**  
*Bookbinding*


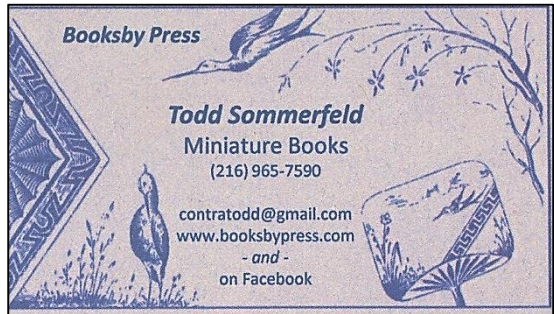
205 Bayne Road  
P.O. Box 507  
Haslet, Texas 76052

817-800-9993  
TonyFirman@earthlink.net  
www.TonyFirmanBookbinding.com



**BO PRESS MINIATURE BOOKS**  
PAT SWEET, PROP.

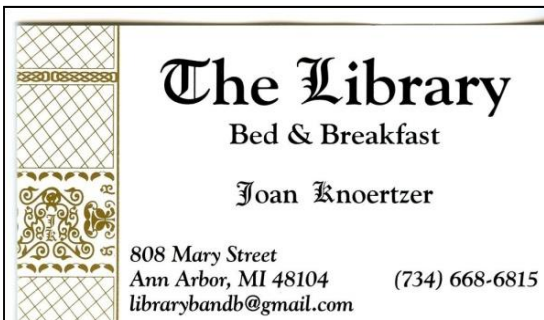
www.bopressminiaturebooks.com  
info@bopressminiaturebooks.com

**Booksby Press**

**Todd Sommerfeld**  
Miniature Books  
(216) 965-7590

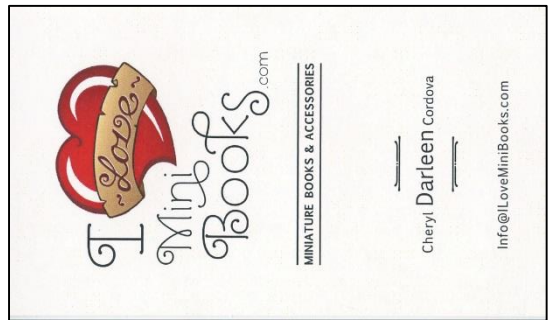
contratodd@gmail.com  
www.booksbypress.com  
- and -  
on Facebook



**The Library**  
Bed & Breakfast

Joan Knoertzer

808 Mary Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 668-6815  
librarybandb@gmail.com




**I Love Mini Books**.com

MINIATURE BOOKS & ACCESSORIES

Cheryl Darleen Cordova

Info@ILoveMiniBooks.com

**Take advantage of the best advertising value in the media world!  
Extend your reach to more customers, the world over, \$20.00 per year!** 

**CLOSING IMAGES,  
Spring Has Arrived!**



*"If Kerry does not get her nose out of the water bucket she is going to miss the car ride with the boss and today is Ice Cream Day on Dreahook Road!"*

*What is better?*

*vanilla or strawberry?*

*Sticking your head out the window?*

*Licking your lips all the way home?*

*Or dreaming about the next Ice Cream Day?*

# 2017 SUBSCRIPTION & ADVERTISING RATES

*THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE*© welcomes ‘Letters to the Editor’, display and classified advertising, and all news about miniature books, miniature book publishers, authors, printers, binders, and the book arts. Please contact the editor for further information about submission of articles for publication and subscriptions.

Email: [hello@themicrobibliophile.com](mailto:hello@themicrobibliophile.com) (NEW EMAIL ADDRESS)

(Deadline for July 2017 issue is June 15<sup>th</sup>)

## 2017 Advertising Rates: *(discounts for repeat inserts)*

Full Page - 5.50” wide x 7.50” \$100.00  
One Half Page - 5.50” wide x 3.75” \$50.00  
One Quarter Page - 2.75” wide x 3.75” \$30.00  
Business Card Ads – \$20.00 per year  
Classified - Up to 250 characters, no charge!

## 2017 Subscription Rates: (6 issues per year, via 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mail)

\$39.00/year, USA  
\$45.00/year, Canada  
\$49.00/year, Overseas

Please make 2017 Renewal checks payable to:  
**‘The Microbibliophile’**

P. O. Box 5453 North Branch, NJ 08876 U.S.A



*This is the registered QR code  
for The Microbibliophile  
Facebook Page*



*This is the registered QR code  
for The Microbibliophile  
website*