



Region Unveils First Online Issue

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Welcome to the much anticipated first issue of our online regional newsletter. The response to moving from a printed version to the online version was overwhelmingly positive. While there are some members who do not have computer access who opted to continue receiving the news by Postal Mail, the majority of people felt this cost-saving measure was the best way to better utilize regional funds. Of course, this is just our first issue and we will be continuously looking for ways to improve the newsletter. As always, your input is welcomed and very much appreciated. Please

feel free to drop a note to your Editor or the Regional Coordinator with any suggestions or ideas you might have to offer.

The newsletter is laid out just as most newspapers or magazines. Many of the stories or articles are continued on subsequent pages due to space limitations. To find a continued story, just scroll down through the pages to the story continuation. If the type size appears too small for you to read, simply click on the "plus" sign or on the percent box on the menu bar at the top of the page to increase the size in your browser window. Happy Reading!

Small, Lively Group Attends Orlando National

While there were only 14 members from our Region, the size of the group didn't limit their enthusiasm. The N2 members attending made their presence known loud and clear, especially at the Annual Business Meeting where our Region received the award from the Board "In recognition of the highest membership growth in the Association". R.C. Cary Yerves accepted an engraved plaque on

behalf of the Region and sends out a note of appreciation to all those of you who have recruited new members and worked so hard to make our Region the best.

The convention, themed "That's Entertainment", did not fail to provide lots of entertainment and activities. New to the convention was the resumption of the Mini

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Your Regional Team

(Continued from page 1)

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From The Regional Coordinator...

It goes without saying that I am so pleased to see our newsletter finally going online. As I see it, here are so many plusses and few, if any, negatives. In addition to being a lot more attractive, it is also going to save our Region a lot of money. Of course, that doesn't mean we don't want you to still continue to buy the Grab Bags that have, for so long, been a staple support of the newsletter. The money we will continue to collect will go towards the continued printing and mailing to those who have requested a hard copy sent to them.

Which brings up a point... I want to assure everyone who has requested a printed copy that we do understand that not everyone has a computer, and even if they do, they may not always enjoy reading the newsletter online. I received a number of notes from people with an almost apologetic tone, explaining why they couldn't get, or didn't want, the online version. No apologies necessary. This is your publication and we want to see that you receive it in the format you prefer. I also want to thank all of you who sent a donation to help defray the postage and printing costs. While we didn't expect anyone to do this, it was a much appreciated gesture.

I am also excited about the recent Club President's/Rep's Retreat that was held in Nevada City. (see story/pictures, page 8)

This event was an opportunity for representatives from all clubs to get together, learn a project to take back to their club and to network with others in discussing problems and issues. This event is just one of the many type of events that we will be able to host with the Regional funds being saved by the online news.

I also want to congratulate everyone in the Region for winning the award presented by the Board for "Highest Growth in The Association." We should all be proud that while many regions and our hobby in general, have suffered a decline in membership, we have grown more than any other region. I accepted a beautiful engraved plaque that will be displayed on the NAME table at all future events. Be sure you stop by the table and see it; you've all earned it!

Lastly, I want to remind you all about the Fresno Small Scales Houseparty being held next month. Joan McLean and her Houseparty committee have been working very hard to put together a memorable event. The theme is "Inside/Outside" and there are some great workshops, as well as some outstanding souvenirs crafted by some outstanding artisans. It isn't often we host a Houseparty in our Region, so I hope to see many of you there. In the meantime, as always, I'll see you around the Region.

Cary

Your Regional Team

(Continued from page 2)

North Bay/ Napa/ Sonoma

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Regional Website

www.nameregionn2.org/
namen2.html

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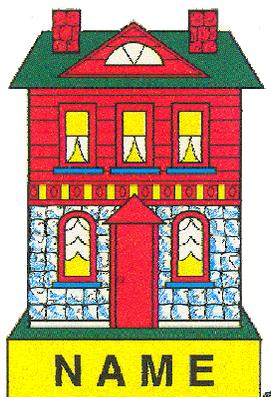
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Convention Highlights (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Mart, a one night sales event that allowed new artists an opportunity to sell at the convention and gain exposure and recognition. These are up and coming artists who have not yet built up enough inventory to become full time dealers. The response and reaction to this event was overwhelming and it was often hard to get close enough to see their wares.

Members attending the Patron Party were shuttled across the street to Sea World where they enjoyed hors d'ouvres, cocktails, entertainment by a Steel Drum band and an extremely vocal Scarlet Macaw.

Prior to the Saturday night banquet, there was a no-host cocktail party where more entertainers amused the crowd, including a face painter and a stilt-walking Elvis impersonator, who made bal-



Souvenirs from Orlando National include a trunk by Prestige Leather, Champagne Tray by Carolyn McVicker and Red Dress by Helen Sandow

loon animals! And of course the Poppettes, those dancing Popcorn Boxes who have become a familiar sight, made their final appearance. All in all it was a Convention that lived up to its theme and a big thanks go out to Colleen Walker, Gwen Campbell and their wonderful committees. Thanks for entertaining us!

Regional Miniaturist Featured In *Dollhouse Miniatures Magazine*

N2 Regional member Carolyn Walden has been featured in a recent issue of *Dollhouse Miniatures* magazine. Carolyn who is a member of Redwood Small World and Humboldt Wizards in the North Coast area was featured in an article that showcased her Harry Potter vignette. Carolyn has been a student in several Rik Pierce workshops and has achieved a superior level of expertise in working with paperclay. She has developed her own unique style of working with the medium and excels in its use. Carolyn was named as a recent winner of the Region's Rising Star award. For those who would like to see the project beyond the pages of the magazine, it will be featured at the Clark Museum in Eureka from mid-October through January.

News From Around The Region

State Rep's Reports

East Bay/ Tri-Valley by Jennifer Rich

I hope by the time you read this newsletter I have contacted most of you, if not all of you, in the East Bay-Tri Valley area to introduce myself as the new area State Rep.

After attending the NAME Houseparty in Anaheim last year I knew I wanted to get more involved with NAME. It was my first Houseparty, though I belonged to NAME a number of years. My only regret was that I waited so long to go to one.

Like a number of you I have had a love of miniatures since I was a kid. Though I didn't have a dollhouse growing up I collected miniatures and displayed them in an old printer's type box. I still have some of those childhood minis. One of my favorites is a tiny 1/12 scale hamburger and bun with little French fries next to it.

I have been trying to keep busy with my minis this year. I belong to a NAME Club (in San Francisco) and also get together with a few friends, also miniaturists, in the Walnut Creek area, on a regular basis.

The first half of the year included Folsom Fiesta and the Elegant Dollhouse Flea Market

Sale in May. Always enjoy those two!! Also attended two NAME Welcome Tea Parties (Walnut Creek and San Francisco) this year.

For the second half of the year I'm looking forward to the Champs Show in September. It's worth going just to see the displays (of course I manage to fit in a little shopping.)

October brings two fun events, the Good Sam Show (I signed up for Karen Cary's class and Sharon Granicy's class) and the Fresno Small Scale Houseparty (three more classes there.) I have started working on my table/exchange gifts and my swap gifts. It seems like a lot of work but I know it will be worth it when I get to see what others have made.

Then in November I'm going to part with some miniatures at the San Mateo Potluck & Flea Market (have to make room for new things.)

One goal I hope to accomplish this year is to get more miniaturists together, whether it's an informal get together or to form a NAME Club. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested, or have questions about an event in the area or NAME, or just want to chat. Contact me at WCMiniatureGroup@aol.com or at 925-283-4717.

Sacramento by Lagena Chrisman

Pack your bags, get ready – Autumn is almost here, and with it are miniature events galore! Representatives of our local clubs have just returned from the Nevada City retreat, loaded with projects and information to share with their members. The retreat was a huge success, hands on instructions included everything from wiring to flower making for your miniature projects, with focus on The Most important goal – to make YOU feel more connected to NAME as a resource in your miniature world. Get ready for a great time at your upcoming club meetings as new skills, projects and ideas blossom from the Club Presidents Retreat. If your club didn't have a representative at this year's event, you've really missed out, so start thinking now about getting in on next years retreat. I've not found a better investment for your time and money anywhere. For a picture of the Retreat Project, visit the N-2 website at <http://www.nameregionn2.org/>

Then, take a deep breath and a vitamin, for October is National

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State Rep's Reports (cont.)

(Continued from page 4)

Miniatures Month. Your local shops and miniature dealers around the country are hosting special sales and events to celebrate all month long. If you haven't dropped by your local miniature store recently, October is a great time to catch up on what's new. Just in case that isn't enough, we've got the Good Sam show in San Jose, followed by the Fresno Small Scales Regional. How's that for a double header! Registration for Fresno is full, so if you didn't get in, be sure and ask a friend to bring back notes and pictures (and maybe a roundtable kit, or two?), the event is planned non stop to ensure the best miniature event of the season. Class pictures for both Good Sam, and Fresno are online. Happy miniaturizing

North Bay/ Napa/ Sonoma by Robin Rose

What a great weekend we had in Nevada City! It was the N2 President's Retreat and we held it at the Diamond Arrow Retreat Center. 35 excited club representatives arrived Friday afternoon and, after dinner, got started on the project: a room-box designed by Cat Wingler. The project was taught by Barbara Thornton-Hill and Eve Karoblis while I helped. Many thanks also to Ed Mabe and 14

year old Jacob for their patience and expertise, especially with electrical stuff. There are several great events coming up--the CHAMPS show in El Sobrante on September 7 & 8; the Good Sam show in mid October (check out their website for classes, times and dates as well as the place, the venue has changed for this year); and the Fresno Houseparty on October 19 through 21. The sales room and exhibit room will be open to the public on Saturday and Sunday and there will be items for sale from all scales, but if you are thinking you might want to try a smaller scale (1/2 inch, 1/4 inch or 1/44th inch) this will be an experience you don't want to miss. On November 10 the Picnic/Flea Market has been resurrected, for information contact Nancy Wantiez at wantiez@sbcglobal.net. It is now sponsored by the Wee Housers Club and will be held in San Mateo. Next year, May 2008, there will be a Houseparty in Portland Oregon. This is a pretty easy drive for most of us so now is the time to start planning and saving for the event. Also it's time to start thinking about our Regional Awards. If you know someone who deserves to be recognized for their service to N2 and NAME, let Cary know. If any of the clubs in my area would like me to visit, please contact me

and I'd be more than willing to come to a meeting, answer questions, etc.

North Coast by Jo Anne Grundhofer

Humboldt County has been very busy. Last April, Redwood Small World hosted a "Play Day, held at Scrappers Edge in Eureka. It gave us a chance to explore using scrap booking items in Minis. We made paper hats, trimmed with some of the supplies at the store and some items from club members. We then, using scrap book papers, made hat boxes and trimmed them. A real fun day for all.

In May two of our club members attended Folsom Fiesta and the Parking lot sale at the Elegant Dollhouse. Both were great fun. Thanks everyone!! June brought us to the District fair in Eureka. Many of our club members entered. Pat Carter from Humboldt Wizards. Debra Jones and Pauline Pier, who work in 1/4" also entered. Another entry "for display only" was a house built in a room box size box built in the 1700's. The gals that work this section of the fair came up with the idea of having children, while Mom's look at quilts, find different items in the mini display, when they did they were given a sticker saying "I survived the

(Continued on page 6)

State Rep's Reports (cont.)

(Continued from page 5)

Miniature Challenge". Soon many adults were wanting to join in the fun. A Great Success!!!

Another very exciting thing happened in June. The Victorian Village of Ferndale's Library started their Summer Reading program with a day of children coming to view and partake in refreshments. What they viewed was none other than Redwood Small World club member Carolynn Walden's "Harry Potter" display. Yes, the one that was featured in Dollhouse Miniatures Magazine, September issue. The display stayed until the last Harry Potter book came out in July...A great Hit!!!

August brought us to the Humboldt County Fair in Ferndale. The fair people were great and members of Redwood Small World were asked to come in to set up the display after judging. We also brought other items to fill in the space to make a more interesting display. We do this in Eureka's Fair also. One day members of the club spent some time doing demo's and, helping those interested, to make a mini hanging flower basket.

Next, in August, Deloris Sallady and Shirley Banks, of our club, attended the President's week end in Nevada City. They came home with all kinds of good

things to say. The Project, the People, the Place...They can hardly wait for our next meeting to share.

Now, more good stuff. When traveling through Eureka everyone should stop at the Clark Museum at 240 E Street. They have on display many mini's, including a collection of furniture from the turn of the century, "Not 2000", made by a company named Beidermeier and some houses "turn of the century" lithographed on wood by the Bliss Company. They also have other interesting room boxes in miniature set in with some of the displays. Starting in mid-October through the first week of January, Carolynn Walden's "Harry Potter" display, and Pat Carter's Witches' Halloween Party, 1/4" Rabbits Tree Thanksgiving, and the Dragon's Christmas will also be shown at the Clark Museum...Who knows what else can be discovered. Come take a Look!!!

There are many plans in the works for the future. Will fill you in later. We do have fun here on the North Coast. As always, Joanne

South Bay/ Peninsula
by Laura Johnson

Greetings, all!

I have had a busy July and Au-

gust, having gone to the National in Orland and the President's weekend in Nevada City. The convention was wonderful. I attended our regional meeting as well as meetings for State Representatives and club presidents. I left impressed by all that the Board and other officers are doing to make NAME a better organization for all our members. There is a wonderful new publication for all the clubs with lots of information and projects. I hope the clubs will make use of these and add to them. The group in Nevada City put on another great weekend (Thanks especially to Barbara Thornton-Hill and Eve and Ed Mabe). The "Shady Lady" rustic garden shop is a fairly simple project and plans are available to all the clubs. I imagine several of the attendees will head up the project for their clubs. The Wee Housers are busy planning the Picnic/Flea Market on November 10. There have been some wonderful bargains in the past so you're going to want to attend. You may also want to sell items you no longer find useful.

I am excited about all the upcoming events in our area: Good Sam, the Fresno House-party and the flea market. I hope all of you will attend some of these and share in the community of miniaturists.

State Rep's Reports (cont.)

Northern Nevada by Mary Ann VanBuskirk

It has been a busy summer for Tahoe Miniacs. The 14th annual Summer at Tahoe State Day was held on July 13 and 14. A good time was had by all building a powder room with a "garden" tub and all accessories. The Carson City club was able to pick up a great new member, Sally Duvall. The Carson City club has also volunteered to help us with next

year's workshop, which is a real blessing.

President Linda Van Buskirk and Elizabeth Dean attended the President's retreat in Nevada City and enjoyed building the "Shady Lady" garden shop.

Linda, Elizabeth and I are busy working on the two committees that we will chair at the upcoming Small Scales Houseparty in Fresno, October 18 thru 21, 2007. Linda and I are the co-chairs of Workshops and Hos-

pitality. In addition, the Tahoe Miniacs are donating a special Hospitality Souvenir kit to every registrant and we are planning some special games and treats in the Hospitality Suite.

Fresno by Joan McLean

Our club, the Tinker Belles, are working on tote bag favors. Barbara and I are working on the Convention. Its getting along nicely. Everyone is busy.
Joan Mc Lean

Snippets — Little Bits of Mini News

Club Projects Needed by NAME Club Committee

Rachel Bonney, Club Liaison, and her committee have been very busy responding to the needs of clubs and their members based on survey responses. One need presented was for innovative projects members could complete during a single club meeting. Many clubs responded to Rachel's request, and the committee published the 1st "NAME Club Project Manual". The manual contains 12 projects in a variety of scales, most of which can be completed during a single club meeting. The committee would like to continue with project updates to the manual and a 2nd project manual that will be available for sale to defray the cost of producing

the manuals for the clubs. The committee is asking clubs and members to submit some of their favorite original projects in any miniature scale for consideration of publication in the manual. Please send project instructions and a photo or prototype to:

Jan McCandliss
1738 Boneta Ave.

Richmond Heights, MO 63117

N2 Has Opening For State Rep In Northern Counties:

We currently have an opening for a State Rep in the northeast sector of Northern California. Current Rep, Pat Decosta, has decided to retire and we thank her for her dedication and service. The area of responsibility covers roughly the communities of Redding, Red Bluff, Chico

and Paradise., although some flexibility is possible. Currently there is only one active club, but there are other miniaturists in the area, so it's a good place to start new activities. If you are interested in joining the NAME team and being a part of developing new activities and clubs and enjoy meeting and working with others, contact R.C., Cary.

It's Renewal Time Again

Club Officers are reminded that renewals are due again. The renewal form was mailed to clubs in their packet last April, but as yet, many have still not renewed. Clubs must renew each year to remain active. As an added incentive, clubs who renew will get updates to the new Club Project Manual. Contact Kim at NAME to renew.

16 Clubs Attend President's Retreat

On August 17th, representatives from 16 NAME and non-NAME area clubs descended on Diamond Arrow Conference Center in California's scenic Sierra Nevada foothills for the first annual Club Representatives Retreat. The event was put together by Regional Events Coordinator Barbara Thornton-Hill and her committee, State Rep Robin Rose, Welcome Chair Eve Karoblis, and NAME President Debbie Young, with the help of Eve's husband Ed Mabe and Grandson Jacob White. The event funded by the region was an opportunity for Area clubs to meet and network about common issues, while creating a project they could take back and teach to their clubs. Attendees spent much of the weekend working on the **Shady Lady**, a project created by Cat Wingler for last year's R. C. Retreat in North Carolina. It was a shadow box vignette that featured a Garden or Potting Shed. Once again however, the ingenious participants at this retreat altered the basic structure into a variety of unusual settings, demonstrating the creativity of the miniaturist's mind.

The Diamond Arrow Conference Center, situated in heart of California's Gold Country is out of cell phone range, and is without television or radios. The rustic mountain lodge setting among Sugar Pines and Manzanitas provided a restful place



Representatives from various clubs throughout the Region work on "The Shady Lady", a Garden Shed vignette designed to be a club project.

that was perfect for inspiring both creativity and communication. Throughout the weekend, participants engaged in open communication about the project as well as discussing issues regarding NAME and their clubs.

On Saturday evening Regional Coordinator Cary Yerves spoke to the group on the topics of membership recruiting and retention, and what NAME can do to assist clubs. He provided the audience with a packet of information that included handouts entitled "Why Should I Join NAME?" and "How NAME Works For You". There was also plenty of fun and sharing as attendees participated in a table swap and gift exchange at Saturday's dinner and with

sweater box sales after Sunday's breakfast.

The event was open to any club in the area, whether or not they belonged to NAME, and each club was allowed to send up to two representatives. Attendees paid a nominal fee of \$140.00 to cover their lodging and five meals, as well as an array of snack and beverages that were available all weekend. The cost of the project and materials was entirely funded by the Region. The event was an enormous success and will be held annually. It is hoped that in the future, all area clubs will send representatives to the retreat and help establish a better working relationship between NAME and the clubs.

2006 Regional Award Winners Announced

Winners of the 2006 Regional Awards were announced at the Regional meeting in July at the National in Orlando. Unfortunately, most of the winners were not present to accept their awards, however, the winners will receive them at other public events throughout the Region, so these deserving members can receive the recognition they have earned.

The Regional Awards are given every July and are selected by the State Reps from nominations sent by members throughout the year. Nominations may be sent in to any State Rep or the Regional Coordinator at any time until May for consideration in the previous year. A previous award winner is not eligible to win in the same category, and the current R.C. is ineligible for any current award. Awards are presented to Hall of Fame, Club of The Year, Youth Mentor, Rising Star, and recognition is given to those who have demonstrated continuous helpfulness with the "Helping Hands" award. Explanation of each category is detailed below. We welcome submissions for all the awards and encourage members to nominate those they feel deserving. A nomination should include a brief description of why you feel the person is deserving of the award.

In addition, the State Reps and R.C. select one individual they

feel has demonstrated continuous exceptional efforts to promote miniatures and NAME to receive the Regional Ambassador Award. From all Regional Ambassadors nationwide, the Board of Directors selects one as recipient of the "President's Award". All winners are listed on the Regional website.

This year's winners are as follows. Please be sure to congratulate these people when you see them.

Hall of Fame—For an individual who has demonstrated continuous commitment to NAME and our Region. Inductees are:

Mary Fish—Former State Rep

Diane Walter—Co-producer of the CHAMP's Miniature Show and member of Mini Dreamers

Wini Buss—Co-producer of the CHAMP's Miniature Show and member of Mini Dreamers.

Club of The Year—For a club that demonstrates continuous commitment to the promotion of events within the Region:

Gold Country Miniature Society of Nevada City/Grass Valley

Youth Mentor—For an individual who has demonstrated exceptional efforts to inspire and encourage young in the miniature hobby.

Co-Winners:

Mary Ann VanBuskirk—State Rep for Northern Nevada

Linda VanBuskirk—President of Tahoe Miniacs

Rising Star—For an individual who has demonstrated exceptional talent and a determined willingness to share with others. Co-Winners:

Dawn Cecil of Gold Country Miniature Society

Lynn Dirga of Gold Country Miniature Society

Helping Hands were presented to:

Jack McLean
Margaret Gordus
Patti Hong
Kay Loudon
Barbara Taplin
Pat Atkinson (posthumously)

In addition, the **Regional Ambassador Award** went to Joan McLean. Joan has been a State Rep representing the Fresno area for many years and has been a member of NAME for 30 years.

Joan has always demonstrated willingness to share of her time and talent while always being a great promoter of NAME. She is currently serving as the Co-Chairperson of the upcoming Fresno Small Scales House-party.

Congratulations to all of this year's winners.



TOOLS, TIPS &



TECHNIQUES



This column will be dedicated to submissions of project tips, techniques and ideas. If you have an idea or tip you'd like to pass on, please email or snail mail it to you Newsletter Editor.

In addition, we will try to pass on some helpful websites that we have found relating to miniatures. While we always want to encourage people to support their local miniature retailer, sometimes that isn't possible. We are aware that some of you live in areas where access to a shop is unavailable. And often times you are looking for a special or unique item that

you just can't find. For that reason, we are passing on these sites. Always check with your local shop first to see if they can assist you in making your miniature projects. We give no guarantee of the reliability of any of these online sites and they are offered as suggested alternatives only.

A variety of artisan galleries are at: www.virtualdollhouse.net. This site showcases numerous individual artisan sites offering all types of handmade article and is set up as a "virtual mall".

Another site is Mainly Minis at

www.dollhouseminiatures.net.

The owner claims to hand pick all of their items and says: "You'll find just about everything here - from minis for your little girl's first dollhouse to the one-of-a-kind artist miniature for the serious collector. "

Lastly, try www.paperminis.com for lots free projects as well as many to buy. It is hard to believe that many of these items are actually made from paper.

TIP: A metal doll stand makes an ideal holder for your glue bottle. The stand holds the bottle upside down & ready to use.



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Show Your NAME Card For A 10% Courtesy Discount

Club Rep's Retreat Photos

Candid photos from the Club Rep's Retreat and photos of some of the completed projects. For more pictures, please visit the Regional website at: www.NAMERegionN2.org/namen2.html. The proto-type (shown first) was designed as a Garden Shop or Potting Shed but you can see from some of these photos that everyone saw something different and interpreted it accordingly.



"The Shady Lady" proto-type as designed by Cat Wingler for the R.C. Retreat



Instructor Barbara Thornton-Hill



As interpreted by Nancy Wantiez



This vignette was done by Mavis Wictum



Eve Karoblis takes a brief break



Here's how Glendon Davis created her setting



This is Jeanne Christoferson's project design



Nancy's shows off her project



Here's Glendon hard at work on her creation

Regional Calendar of Events

September

7—8th—Children's Hospital Annual
Miniatures on Parade (CHAMP's) Show
Boys & Girls Club—Appian Way
El Sobrante, CA
Fri— 5—10 pm
Sat—10 am — 4 pm
Info: jandi200@aol.com

18—21 Fresno Small Scales H.P.
Raddison Hotel, Fresno, CA
Info: www.miniatures.org

February

7th—River City Rendezvous
KVIE TV—Sacramento, CA
Info: www.miniwizards.com

October

13—14th—Showcase of Miniatures
(Good Sam Show)
South Hall, San Jose, CA
Sat—10 am—5 pm
Sun.—11 am 4 pm
Info: goodsamshowcase.miniature.net

May

8th—Folsom Fiesta
KVIE TV—Sacramento, CA
Info: gnomehome13@sbcglobal.net
3rd—Elegant Dollhouse Parking Lot Sale
1120 Fulton Ave. Sacramento, CA
Info: 916-484-0411



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