

small talk

Region N-1's Newsletter

Autumn 2010

Issue No. 9

Representing Arizona, New Mexico, So. Nevada, El Paso, Texas, and So. California



Hello from the Regional Coordinator

Hi and welcome to FALL! I am writing this when it's over 100 degrees outside and trying to envision cooler temps and colored leaves. I would like to introduce myself, Susan Sheridan, member of NAME since 1975 and founding member of the Las Vegas Miniature Enthusiasts. I have been State Rep for Nevada off and on over the past few years, so this is my first at being Regional Coordinator. I am stepping in after Janet Smith who really was instrumental in getting our newsletter and website revamped and revised, thank you Janet! So I hope that with all of your help we can continue to improve both this coming year. The goals for this year are to increase information on our Region N1 website. This includes more photos and or project information. Also to have a Region N1 Swap for Region N1 members. So we can have some fun and get more activity going on between the states. Planning is underway to get this set up within a few months and email notification will go out to all announcing this event. Plus continued Region N1 Newsletters to communicate and promote miniatures.

With that we need to recognize and acknowledge two ladies in our region who have been honored with special recognition from NAME at National this July 2010. Marilyn Taylor of Simi Valley California was awarded the Founder's Award, congratulations Marilyn! We appreciate your commitment to NAME and your help over the years. Gloria Osborn from San Diego, California was awarded the Ambassador award. Congratulations Gloria! There is a photo of Gloria found further in this issue of the newsletter. Please be sure to congratulate both ladies if you get the chance. Volunteers are much appreciated for their time and efforts shared with our clubs, shows and NAME. Thank you to both of them for their continued support.



So how do we get into the fall season here in Vegas? I have solved that by displaying and decorating my home with all my fall miniature creations and décor. So at least it feels looks and smells like fall inside my home. This is the time of year when I get busy perusing my emails from the updates from Half Scale minis, Quarter Connection, Name Online and Micro Minis. I have so much fun checking out to see what is happening on all these specialty scales. It gives me a wide range of abilities to challenge myself to participate on the various workshops, swaps, projects and conventions that come up. If you want to learn more about these specialty scales these special groups are all through Yahoo groups. Check it out and see what I mean.

I have included a photo taken of me at work a couple years ago. I am holding my decorated pumpkin entry that my work had promoted for Halloween fun. I didn't win but I submitted a decorated one inch scale pumpkin center piece for everyone to enjoy. It was fun and everyone was amazed by its size

Region N1 Leadership Team

Regional Coordinator, N1: Susan Sheridan
(ssheridan@clear.net)

State Rep., New Mexico: Heather Cutting-Rayl
(hcrsold@aol.com)

State Rep., Arizona: Ginger Anderson
(ginnymini@aol.com)

State Rep., Southern Nevada: Susan Sheridan
(ssheridan@clear.net)

State Rep., California: San Diego and Imperial Counties: Jackie Hoefert
(jhoefert@sps.com)

State Rep., California: San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties: Betty Hodges
(beachbetty@aol.com)

State Rep., California: Riverside, Orange, San Bernadino and Part of Los Angeles Counties: Nancy Robertson
(nanrob9@yahoo.com)

State Rep., California: Santa Barbara and Part of Los Angeles Counties: Valerie Greenberg
(valeriembishop@yahoo.com)

State Rep., California: Ventura and Part of Los Angeles Counties: Marilyn Taylor
(mmstu@sbcglobal.net)

Welcoming Committee Chair: Sheila Benjamin
(sheilabenjamin@aol.com)

Newsletter Editor: Jenifer MacLowry
(jenifermacl@mindspring.com)

Web Mistress: Cynthia Howe
(cynthia@cynthiahoweminiatures.com)

Please continue to submit your information about your clubs activities, local area events or special shows so everyone has the opportunity to plan to attend for the newsletter and Region N1 website. I would love to get to attend some of these events but unable to because of my full time job. I appreciate those of you who have submitted articles and photos. Keep them coming! Please make copies of this newsletter to distribute to your club members and anyone else who might be interested in miniatures. As always Jenifer, Cynthia and I want to thank you for your commitment and continued support with our Region N1 newsletter and Website. Please contact me at ssheridan@clear.net with your comments, suggestions and feedback. Happy fall, Happy Halloween, and Happy Thanksgiving!
Susan Sheridan Region N1 Coordinator

N.A.M.E. Board Report

from Janet Smith

As the only member of the NAME board from N-1, I've offered to write these periodic reports on the happenings of the board for those of you in N-1 (See...you haven't managed to get rid of me!)

As of July's convention, the membership of the NAME Board of Directors now consists of:

President: Gwen Campbell	First VP: Cary Yerves
Second VP: Luci Hanson	Secretary: Barbara Thornton-Hill
Treasurer: Bill Allen	Past President: Karen Barone
Club Liaison: Romaine Eyler	Member at Large: Patty Johnson
Marketing/Publicity: Nick Karatjas	Convention/Houseparty Liaison: Rhonda Keef
Fundraising Liaison: Babette Overman	RC Liaison: Janet Smith

Contact information for your board of directors can be found on the NAME website at: <http://www.miniatures.org/newsite/board.php>

At our August board meeting, we discussed some possible changes to the AOH guidelines (all proposed by the AOH) and voted on a new chair of the AOH selection committee.

Congratulations and thanks to Colleen Walker who will take on this role. Colleen has done a wonderful job chairing the auctions we've had at our recent National Conventions, and is now working on an auction to be held at Philadelphia Miniatura.

We reviewed a really wonderful letter from a first timer at the convention in Seattle who was absolutely GLOWING in her comments about the convention.

We approved the creation of a Office Relations Committee that will handle many of the personnel related functions that were previously handled by the Executive Director, including

maintaining job descriptions, performing evaluations, determining staff benefits, managing staff/member and staff/board relationships, determining needs for temporary help, etc. Toni and Kim are a vital and important part of the NAME organization and it is felt that changes in this area will benefit both of them.

As we're fresh out of the National Convention, some updates have been made to the dealer selection policies. There were also updates to the Houseparty manual, including adding a policy for garage sales (there was no policy on garage sales before).

On the financial side of the house, we heard the numbers from the convention. The Auction at the Seattle Convention brought in \$13,299.00 with expenses of \$1511.03 for a net profit of \$11,787.97. The Garage sale made \$2790.55. Public Day brought in \$770.00. Income and Expenses are on track for the fiscal year to date.

Luci Hanson presented some ideas to spark membership including reaching out to our members who don't travel through even more on-line activities including an on-line convention (in addition to the conventions we already have!)

New State Reps and RCs were affirmed/confirmed, but the only change for N-1 is the change in RC already announced.

A technology committee is being formed to continue the work already done with respect to updating the office database system and to look at improving NAME's web presence.

We discussed plans for the patron party in Cleveland. And discussed several exciting ideas for Gazette raffles for next year (our 40th anniversary!)

The Club Liaison's committee has been established. Romaine is working on a description of the duties of a Club "Leader." The word "leader" is being used as many clubs are informally organized and may not have an official President role.

Nick Karatjas is working on a Press Kit for NAME. This could benefit the organization as a whole in looking for corporate sponsors or applying for grants, and could benefit our local clubs who may want to submit articles and information to their local news venues.

We reviewed and updated NAME's long term planning document.

Janet Smith, RC Liaison

Welcoming Committee Chair needed

Sheila Benjamin who has been the Welcoming Committee Chair for the past year has asked to step down from this position. Many thanks go to Sheila for all that she did to help with her time, commitment and service. This is a great opportunity for someone to participate by helping our new members get hooked up with the nearest or local mini activities. If you are interested please contact Susan Sheridan at ssheridan@clear.net so we can help continue this supporting area. Sheila is presently covering this position until we find her replacement.

Club News

Las Vegas Miniature Enthusiasts

submitted by Susan Sheridan

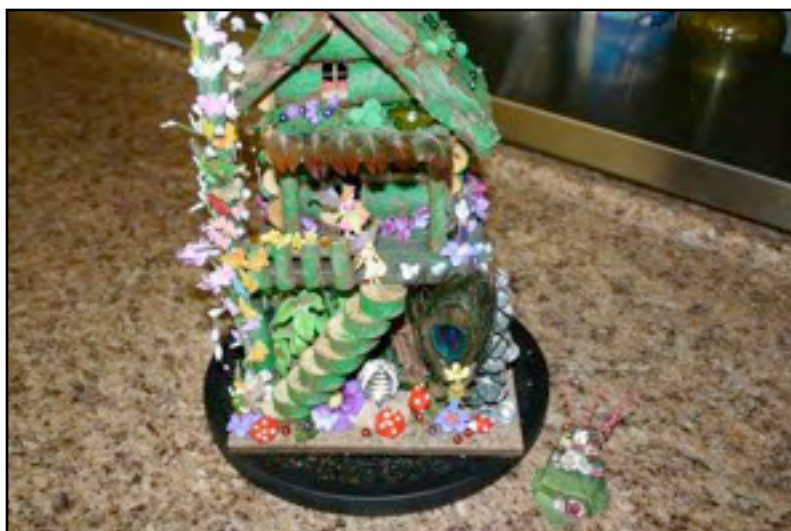
The Las Vegas Miniature Enthusiasts has recently started a project creating a scene or display in a carved out book with a window or door on the cover. It looks like this is going to be fun to see what everyone comes up with when they are completed. Goal is to get them done by November meeting.

Our club is getting excited about working on our NAME Day Hutch workshop this October. Although we are holding our event on our club meeting day Saturday, October 16th, we anticipate a great day of fun. I hope each of you is participating this year there are lots of options available to everyone.

September and November we will be working on MacKenzie Childs style miniature Christmas trees. Everyone has an idea of what they want to place on these trees and begin this project in September and continuing in November. Some of our members have already made a tree and plan to make more at this meeting.

December is our holiday party for our club with a gift exchange among our members. We look forward to this event every year.

Photos of our projects will be featured in the next couple of newsletters and website as we complete them. Susan Sheridan



This is a photo of Anna Conroy's Fairy Dwelling. The fairies she collected from the gum ball machines and found the tree house at Savers. She finished it up with all the decorations, etc so her fairies had a place to hang out. It is really cute.

San Diego Miniature Crafters submitted by Jackie Hoefert

The San Diego Miniature Crafters would like to congratulate Gloria Osborn for receiving the Ambassador's Award for 2009-2010. In 1972 Gloria invited some doll club friends that might have an interest in miniatures to her house. The club was organized and she was the first president. She is a tireless worker, holding every office over the years and always volunteering for committees. She is a friend to all and a hard worker. We are proud to call her our friend.

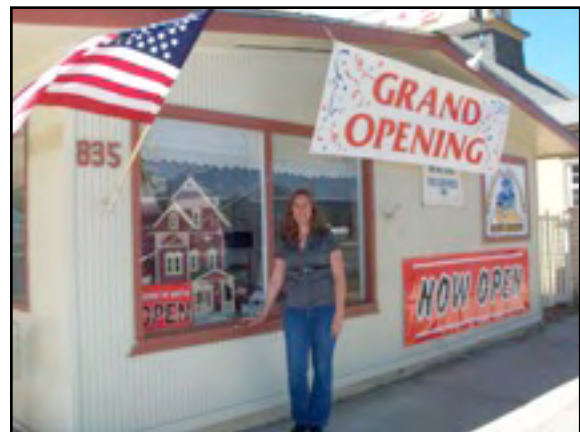


On August 24, two new ladies, Shari Clemans and Judy Weissman became members of The San Diego Miniature Crafters. Each will

receive a name badge and a handmade toolbox pin which is our logo. Trudy Rogers and Lori Lehman will be their mentors, answering any questions and making sure each new member makes new friends and has a nice time at every functions.

June was our Annual Luncheon at the Bay Club on Shelter Island. Lori always does a great job of obtaining a meeting room with a wonderful view of the boats on the bay. Debi Cerone brought the table decorations and was in charge of the Opportunity Drawing. Israela Manson coordinated the gift exchange. Our lunch is always so good and we had the installation of new officers. Already the holidays are approaching very fast and now Bobbi Allen is starting to plan the Christmas Party which will be held on December 14.

We would like to welcome a new shop to our area. "Carolyn's Miniatures" opened on July 1 and is located in Ramona, CA. The shop offers new, resale and used items. She has an extensive collection of dollhouses and supplies. Carolyn dresses beautiful Bespaq beds in elegant fabrics and lace. Be sure to see her website at carolynsminiatures.com or go by and visit at 835 Main Street, Ramona, CA. 760-788-5640 Wednesday thru Saturday 10-6, Sunday 12-6
Jackie Hoefert



Mini-Imaginations, Torrance

submitted by Jenifer MacLowry

Recently I joined my third mini club, Mini-Imaginations, (this is what retirement is for, right?) This lively group meets the second Thursday of every month. They have just started a great double-sided project based on one found in *Dollhouse Miniatures* (May 2002). It pays to keep your old issues if you can find the space! Our teachers, Leslie Jacoby and Linda Knapp, are organized. They had us cutting foam core pieces and changing our cutting blades like crazy at the first meeting. And they have even assigned us homework!

This is going to be one fun project. We should have some finished projects ready to show everyone for another Newsletter.

These prototypes were made by Leslie Jacoby.



Minis in Paradise Scottsdale, Arizona

Submitted by Robert Ravenwood

MINIS IN PARADISE meet the first and third Thursdays of every month. Our theme for most of our projects this year has been an “*Artist’s Studio*” and we are continuing to work on pieces for our individual studios.

The projects we have been working on at our meetings in August are a painting easel and a drawing table. The easel and drawing table join a sink, sculptor’s table, paint storage shelves, chair and portfolio that have been the focus of previous meetings. We have a couple more items to build and the pieces for the studio will be fully complete although I think most of us have quite a bit of work before we can say we have completed our own studios.

Everyone seems to have a really good time getting together and building our projects. We laugh and talk with only an occasional “exclamation of frustration”. It is so-o-o-o-o-o fun to be around so many talented people and share our successes and frustrations. In fact, we always have a place in our meeting when anyone who has a “hint” for the group can share it and make life easier for the rest of us. I learn something every week.

As with most miniaturist clubs, our little group consists of “mature adults” and at our last meeting everyone thought we were having simultaneous and multiple





hot-flashes. It was just the air conditioner not working well and in the middle of Arizona, in August, air-conditioning working properly is a **MUST!** OK, there may have been one or two legitimate hot-flashes but I won't say who.

While most of us are still building toward the completion of our individual projects, we have already seen one completed studio! In addition to making all of the projects

in 1/12 scale, **Lee Logan** is doing all of the projects at 1/4 scale. She has completed her 1/4 scale version of the artists studio in an attic room box. It is absolutely stunning as you can see in the photos below (the photos really don't do it justice).

This kind of work gives us all something to shoot for. It is quite an inspiration, although Lee pointed out to the club that the attic has a "**major**" flaw. I won't say what it was because none of us could find it but it has now become a running joke.

Several of us will be attending the National **NAME** Day event (*A Ghoul Tide Gathering*) on October 2, 2010 in Mesa, Arizona. The Hutch project has so many possibilities it will be fun to see what everyone makes of it. We all look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones. For me personally, it will be my first such event and I am really looking forward to the experience.



Minis in Paradise recently gained one new member: **Terry Adriance**. We welcome Terry and hope she has fun with the club. We all look forward to what she can contribute.



NOCMG Fullerton, California submitted by Jenifer MacLowry

North Orange County Miniature Guild mourns the passing of one of miniatures' best talents, Willodean "Willie" Wiswell, who died August 30, 2010.

Pat Hausman has this remembrance: "Willie was a great friend and inspiration to our miniature clubs and to the world of miniatures. She loved the challenge of reproducing the unending ideas she had into miniature scenes, and the display in her home of accomplished projects is a miniature museum unto itself. She loved sharing her work and ideas.

Never one to sit around and be idle, she always had projects going. Many of us have saved bags of dried bell pepper seeds for her to use as potato chips in her mini chip bags. Her goal was about 100 bags! She delighted in making and giving miniature gifts to family and friends.

She was a creative teacher, and freely shared her ideas. Her sense of humor was unparalleled, and I'm sure she would want all of us to go out and party in her honor. We will miss her."

*We shall meet, but we will miss her,
There will be the vacant chair,
But though we will no longer possess her,
Still our hearts her memory bear.
But a while ago we gathered,
Friendship beaming in each eye,
Now the golden cord is severed,
She has passed to realms on high.*

Volume 5 of this Newsletter has an article about Willie and a few photos showing her wonderful talent. —ed.

.....

Reading Into Fall

As I creep closer to Medicare I become more and more fascinated with the thirties and forties. These were such pivotal decades in the world. One book in particular really reflects England (most apply to America as well) during those times. It is *Thirties & Forties Miniatures in 1:12 Scale* by Jane Harrop. It has a simplicity of design with an attention to detail that immediately attracted me. For example, directions for making a gas mask are given as well as a reflector fire and wireless (radio). These little items give the authenticity that draw you right in. You get a real feel for what it was like to live during this time. The book is divided into four basic chapters: The Hallway, The Living Room, The Kitchen, and The Bedroom. Each section gives clear and simple directions for making everything in the scenes except the wonderful dolls. At the end of the book Harrop includes templates and basic techniques and materials needed. It is possible to construct all the furniture with simple tools and materials (no outlets necessary). Harrop includes very

clever ways to make mixing bowls with quilling paper and many other unique items. If you have an interest in things English and are thinking of doing an mini scene that takes a peek into the lives of the average Brit during the thirties and forties, you will find this book a treasure trove of ideas. Jenifer MacLowry

This adorable project is a **free gift** from our regional coordinator, Susan Sheridan. You will find complete instructions, patterns, and photos in a piece **separate** from the Newsletter. That way you can save it in onto a computer file for future use. Be sure to download it as well the Newsletter. Thanks, Susan, for sharing!

Gingerbread gift bag Micro Mini



Upcoming Events in Region N-1

October 2, 2010

NAME DAY ACTIVITIES

- * In the Los Angeles area the Unfinished Kits club is hosting a hutch making class during their regular meeting. Contact Sheila Benjamin if you want to join them. sheilabenjamin@aol.com
- * In the Morro Bay area Betty reported that Mike Botkin will make kits for the club.
- * In Yuma, Arizona the Saguaro Miniature Guild of Yuma has a theme "One Person's Treasures" and will meet from 9 to 4 at the Yuma County Library. For information : Fern Goad 928-783-7393
- * In Mesa, Arizona the theme is "Ghoul Gathering" and the group will meet from 9 to 3 at the Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church. For information: Nancy McEwen 480-756-8650
- * In Fullerton, CA the NOCMG is hosting a day of hutch and kit making in 1inch scale and quarter inch scale from 9 to 4 at the First Presbyterian Church. Contact Pat Bigham at MINIPJB@HOTMAIL.COM Some space is still available.
- * In all of N-1 region experience a Virtual Name Day with a Noah's Ark theme. Contact Janet Smith 575-532-5432 or desertminis@gmail.com There are still some openings.

Other Happenings in our region.

- * October 16 &17, 2010 Tucson Miniature Show
10:00 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and 11:00 to 4:00 on Sunday.
Located at the Tucson Women's Center
6245 E. Bellevue, Tucson Arizona
Admission \$5 and for children under 12 \$2.
- * November 13, 2010 Glendale, Arizona State Day hosted by Small World Miniature Club
"Patio Shop" project
St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 6300 W. Camelback Rd., Glendale, AZ
Reservations are now closed.
- * January 21, 22, 2011 The Tom Bishop Show at the Clarion Hotel in Anaheim
See show link: [SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - January 21, 22, 2011](#)
- * February 5-6, 2011 San Diego Miniature Crafters Present: "Nostalgia in Miniatures"
37th Annual Show & Sale Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego, CA
92111 Information: www.sdminiatures.com
- * February 12, 2011 Culver City, CA Miniatures West Show & Sale Radisson Hotel, 6161 W. Centinela Avenue. Saturday 9:30 to 4:30. Information Vicki Saltzman 949-858-5637
- * February 19-20. 2011 Morro Bay, CA Dollhouse & Miniature Show & Sale
- * March 12 & 13, 2011 Phoenix Miniature Show Information: www.phoenixminiatures.com

.....

National Convention Information for 2011

CLEVELAND ROCKS WITH A SONG IN OUR HEARTS. I invite you to the National Convention in Cleveland July 21-24, 2011, where you will have HOT FUN IN THE SUMMERTIME. WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS we will SHAKE RATTLE, AND ROLL and ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK. To be part of the "band" we need back up singers, musicians, roadies and superstars. Please help us with Tote Bag Favors, Door Prizes, and House Party Helpers.

Tote Bag Favors are small, inexpensive, well-crafted gifts from clubs or individuals and given to each registrant in a tote bag. We will be filling 500 bags. We realize not everyone will be able to donate one item for each bag, however, we would appreciate a minimum of 100 of any one gift. Please bag your items individually and include your name or club name and hometown. All gifts must be received by June 15, 2011. Send to:

April Locker
13616 Eastwood Blvd.
Garfield Hts., OH 44125
aprillocker@msn.com

Suggested items:

music books records/CDs rock posters
sheet music batons tickets and programs
CD players musical instruments back stage passes
I Pods composers busts microphones
gramophones
metronome headsets

Door Prizes are wonderful extras. A number is drawn and the lucky winner gets a special prize. They don't have to be theme related and should be valued between \$10 and \$50. No need to wrap your prizes, but please include your name and address. Send them by May 15 to:

Lynne and Phil Joehnk
7240 Walnut Creek Dr.
West Chester, OH 45069
phinlil@hotmail.com

House Party helpers are handcrafted items valued at \$150 or more. Clubs, shops, or individuals may donate vignettes, roomboxes, dollhouses, shopping spree cash, or a very special doll, furniture or accessories. Raffle tickets are sold and then placed in a container by each item. The drawing is during the Saturday night banquet. Please contact;

DeeDee Whipple
1088 Mount Pleasant Rd.
Winnetka, IL 60093
whip10@aol.com

There are so many other ways to help and be part of our "band". Clean out your work room and donate to the garage sale. Bag it all up and price it low, but nothing less than \$1. Contact

Dawn Reese 18254 Quarry Rd.
Wellington, OH 44090
dreese@ncwcom.com

Be a Gold Star Volunteer, these are the most helpful people at the convention. They monitor the exhibit room, help set up the displays, check people into tours, theme luncheons, greet and give directions and generally help where they are needed. Call:

Mary Horvath
8569 Tanglewood Tr.
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

To be a table host please call:

Ann Silverman
4734 Belfield Dr.
Dublin, OH 43017
bsilver104@aol.com

We are waiting for you to join us and have a ball in Cleveland. YOU MUST REMEMBER THIS: BUTTON UP YOUR OVERCOAT put on your BLUE SUEDE SHOES and bring A POCKETFUL OF MONEY and BOOGIE ON DOWN to Cleveland. Don't miss out and cry WHO'S SORRY NOW. July 21-24, 2011, THAT'LL BE THE DAY!

Any questions, please contact me, Cathy Lincoln, chairman
clelenadconvention2011@yahoo.com



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION INFO

The N-1 Newsletter is published quarterly.
All members of N.A.M.E. are welcome to send in contributions.

Submissions for the Winter Issue are due by December 1st.
Submissions for the Spring Issue (2011) are due by March 1st.
Submissions for the Summer Issue (2011) are due by June 1st.
Submissions for the Fall Issue (2011) are due by September 1st.

The editor welcomes articles containing news about club activities, events, displays, et cetera. Please keep club reports to between 50 and 150 words and no more than about three pictures (I will include all you send me but may need to crop some). **In the future all other articles will be edited for length as miniaturists need to save their eyesight for making minis.**

The editor needs to occasionally change font size and move things around to make things fit. So, no PDF files, please. Articles may be submitted by email at
jenifernacl@mindspring.com

Events, updates, other timely information, and past volumes of the newsletter may also be found on the Regional Web Site <http://www.name-n1.org>

Kindly remember that your region relies solely upon volunteers and has no budget for mailings. You are encouraged to share this newsletter with your mini friends who do not have access to the internet.

Information and opinions contained in the N-1 Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the view of the National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts or its regions. The facts as presented in each article are verified insofar as possible, but any opinions are strictly those of the individual authors.

ANNOUNCEMENT

2013 National Convention will be held in Tucson AZ

“At Night in the Museum”when miniatures come alive!

With the recent opening of the Mini Time Museum in Tucson, AZ some members of the NAME board felt it would be a perfect place to have a Houseparty in Tucson to celebrate the museum and its founders. After the 2009 Convention in Indianapolis, several members of the N1 region were approached and asked to submit an application. Stephanie Engeseth stepped up and agreed to act as Convention Chair along with Sheila Benjamin as Co-Chair. An application was submitted to the board and it was accepted in the latter part of 2009.

Anyone wishing to participate in any way, we welcome your ideas, time and contributions. This is an event for all members of NAME, as it is our Annual National Convention and we will welcome all the assistance we can get. If you would like to volunteer please contact either of us with your thoughts, interests or ideas. If possible, email is a preferred method of contact.

As long time NAME members and having attended many Conventions & Houseparties we welcome help from any NAME member who wants to contribute to the Convention. NAME members in Tucson, Phoenix, or nearby cities may be in a better position to handle some of the responsibilities than NAME members who are located in other parts of the country and for that reason; we are hoping many will want to participate. But the process for pulling together a convention does not involve **"drafting"** local club members. All work is done on a volunteer basis. In these days of e-mail and conference calling, it is not necessary that the committee members or chairs be co-located.

Our Convention Hotel will be the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort.

In the future, I and other members of the Convention committee will be submitting articles for the N-1 Newsletter updating the region on the activities going on, progress made, and any opportunities to help.

Please NOTE: The Museum is NOT responsible for this Convention in anyway. This National Convention will be staffed by volunteers from NAME as are all other Conventions or Houseparties. We will be working with the museum to arrange for special tour opportunities, but have not begun that process yet.

Looking forward to having an exciting and fun Convention,

Stephanie Engeseth – Chairman
PO 130366
Carlsbad, CA 92013
760-603-9495 Hm
760-815-3918 Cell

Sheila Benjamin – Co-Chairman
10626 Flaxton Street
Culver City, CA 90230
310-558-0888 Hm
310-351-1353 Cell

Fujin200@usa.net

sheilabenjamin@aol.com