

THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Volume XL, Number 2 Issue 230, March 2021



Snow is Flying but Spring is In the Air

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A Memory, A Spirit Revived

By Sherry Mayo



“What she really felt like doing was reading. Escaping into the Enchanted Wood, up the Faraway Tree, or with the Famous Five into Smuggler's Top”. (*The Forgotten Garden*, by Kate Morton)

While Anna read these words and gazed at the image of the young girl sitting high in the canopy of a large, leafy tree embraced by its branches, she was flooded with memories of her own childhood. As the eldest of seven siblings finding any alone time for her to sink into a favorite book was not easily found. Anna was their nursemaid with the constant duty to keep them safe from harm, properly fed, and entertained.

She was only twelve when the shackles of parenting came creeping in to steal away her childhood. The harshness of life on the wind swept plains, so different than the forests of the northlands, had proven too difficult for the delicate nature of her mother. She had sunk into a deep morose because the relentless heat, the intense work, and the loneliness of isolation overwhelmed her spirit.

Anna's father brought the family to this new place on the promise of free land and a good job for any man willing to work in the ore pits. In addition to his wages, he would receive two acres of land on which to build an abode for his family. For a poor timber laborer, this was an amazing offer for future prosperity and the land that would be his own.

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Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

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The Microbibliophile

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

Sherry Mayo, Publisher James M. Brogan, Editor © 2021 by James M. Brogan

Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

The length of the day is inching its way through the short hours of the winter toward that magical day of June 21. We are still alternating between home school and regular school depending just where you are in the world. Hopefully the virus vaccine will do its job and make the world a safer place for everyone sooner rather than later.

I hope that everyone is looking forward to the Spring and Summer and those activities which we all enjoy. I have been busy planning my vegetable garden and looking forward to a big crop of raspberries this year in addition to the peas, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, beets, and carrots. Maybe a few trips to the beach as well as a trip to the FDR library to get back to my project of identifying those miniature books that are still part of the Hyde Park Library.

Plum Park Press and Wild Onion Press supplied the books for our review with this issue. Jan Becker shares a story about her special telephone. Some interesting ephemera from Kathryn Rickard and her problem with bookshelves. Meet a new collector, read about a 'mystery book', some additional research books, and a new book by Cyclone Press. Nina Mazzo gleans more tidbits from within the MBN and we visit some previously published classic miniature books. Plenty to read and keep you interested till it is 'time to plant the peas in the garden'.

There are two special review/synopsis of books from the Bradbury 100 list for your enjoyment. One by Patricia Pistner and the second by Gail Curry. The '100 List' is a monthly feature designed so readers can submit a review of a listed book and we will gladly accept your input and help, 'our pencils are getting shorter all the time'. We can also help with any 'writer's block' if help is needed.

Enclosed with the last issue, if we had not received your renewal, was a subscription renewal form for your convenience. Please renew now and possibly even consider giving a gift subscription to a friend or library. Please return your renewal form with payment, if you have not already done so, via the USPS to the address on the rear cover, or if you want to save a stamp, you can use PayPal, email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com. (Please choose "Friends and Family" option).

In closing, feedback is like oxygen for your Editor. Your support and interest is what helps keep *The Microbibliophile* an active publication of all things "miniature bookish", something new, something old, but always something interesting. Your Editor is patiently waiting to hear from you. Thank you again, for letting us bring *The Microbibliophile* into your home, for your family, and your life. 📖



FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

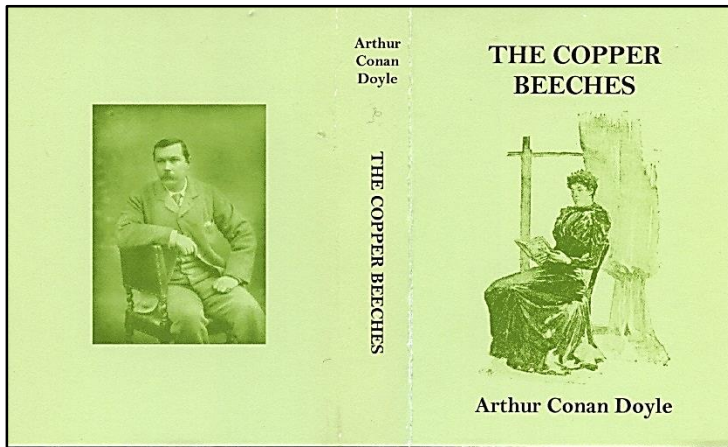
Warren G. Harding, 1865 – 1923,
29th President of the United States,
1921 – 1923.

“America's present need is not heroics but healing;
not nostrums but normalcy; not revolution but restoration.”

*(Image of the 1923 ‘memorial’ \$.2 stamp issued
by the USPS in Marion, Oh)* 📖



MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



THE COPPER BEECHES, by Arthur Conan Doyle, published by Plum Park Press, 2021. *The Copper Beeches* is the 5th miniature in the Plum Park series of books by Arthur Conan Doyle. The first four titles are: *The Blue Carbuncle*, *The Five Orange Pips*, *A Scandal In Bohemia*, and *The Red-Headed League*. Stories about Sherlock Holmes are always very popular with readers. Each of the other titles in the series has also been reviewed in *The Microbibliophile*. At the time that these stories were originally written [*The Copper Beeches*, 1892], they were published in ‘The Strand Magazine’, a popular

periodical that was an excellent and affordable distribution method for the period. Later, they were published in a book form with the title, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*.

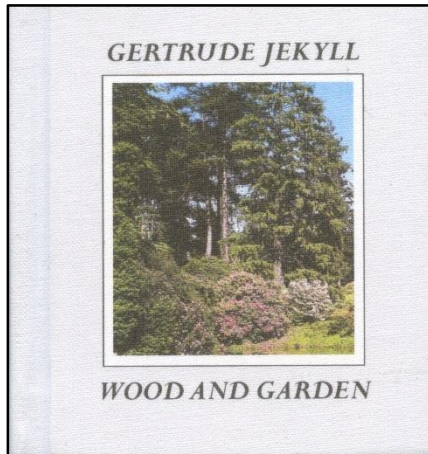
This is a typical Holmes mystery thriller. The title, ‘The Copper Beeches’, is the name of the country estate of Jephro Rucastle who is a strange man for sure. The other main character is Violet Hunter, a governess who is employed by Rucastle. The story unfolds with a focus on the professional skills of the Holmes who is fixated on the ‘unoccupied wing’ of the estate.

This miniature of *The Copper Beeches* is published with the illustrations that were created by Sydney Paget for the Strand publications. The book is bound in a light green book cloth with green endpapers and headband. A green dustjacket is provided with a printed Paget illustration on the front cover and a portrait of Doyle on the rear cover. All of the previous books in the series were provided with dustjackets as well. The text consists of 131 numbered pages. The typeface is Bell, Cataneo Light. *Beeches* is 2³/₄" x 2" and is priced at \$45 plus shipping. Each copy of the edition is numbered and signed by the publisher.

As always, with Plum Park books, the workmanship and finished product are excellent. Please contact Tony for availability and shipping considerations. 📖

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787

E-mail: TonyFirman@earthlink.net or www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com



WOOD and GARDEN: Notes and Thoughts, Practical and Critical, of a Working Amateur, Volume 1, by Gertrude Jekyll [1843 – 1932]. The original was published by Longmans, Green, & Co., London, 1899, this miniature edition, published by the Wild Onion Press, 2021, edited by Patricia Caernarven-Smith.

Gertrude Jekyll was an energetic gardener with a 15-acre parcel that she chose to transform into her own piece of ‘heaven on earth.’ Pat, the editor, has taken the original volume and brought it into the 21 century by adding a bridge between what has been and what will bloom over time. Volume 1 covers the first six months of the year and Volume 2 will cover the remainder of the year. Taken from the publisher’s prospectus, *“Begin with a wilderness. Build a house in the middle. Year by year, expand the gardens, while taking notes, hiring personnel, planting, seeding, cutting flowers, bouquets, corresponding with horticulturists and nurseries,*

moving massive trees, and maintaining the compost piles. In the midst of all of this work, find a way to fall in love with nearly every plant you see.”

Gardening is probably one of the most tended activities that people enjoy; some just a small ‘dabble’ and with others a ‘giant affair’. ‘Wood and Garden’ will be an inspiration for all.

‘*Wood and Garden*’ contains a lengthy (24 page) editor’s introduction as well as the original Introduction as published. The miniature is printed on 240 numbered pages, the covers measure 3" x 3", bound in a light gray book cloth with the title and a garden picture on the front cover. The text is printed with Perpetua and Futura typefaces on Navigator Platinum paper. The book is sized at 3" x 3" (and includes several illustrations.) The front and rear endpapers are printed across the two sheets with colorful garden scene photographs. The current edition is an open edition; each numbered and signed by the publisher. As with all Wild Onion Press books, this is a well-constructed book that is comfortable to hold and read, and to re-read as a reference volume. The price is \$40. Check with Tony for availability of this volume and shipping costs. 📖

*Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787
E-mail: TonyFirman@earthlink.net or www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com*

SAD NEWS, OBITUARIES:

Sometimes we must deal with the inevitable facts of life, as hard as they may be.

Patricia Caernarven-Smith, wife of Tony Firman, passed away unexpectedly on February 4, 2021. Pat was an historian, writer, editor, and publisher of the Wild Onion Press, Weaverville, North Carolina.

Miriam Owen Irwin, wife of Kenneth John Irwin, passed away on February 07, 2021, Cincinnati, Ohio. Miriam was a miniature book publisher and founded the Mosaic Press in 1977. She was instrumental in founding the Miniature Book Society in 1983.

R.I.P. Ladies, Well Done, We will never say good-bye, for your works will keep your memory with us, and those that follow, far into the future.!

Our condolences are extended to their families and friends. 📖

Frontispiece, continued:

Anna's father brought the family to this new place on the promise of free land and a good job for any man willing to work in the ore pits. In addition to his wages, he would receive two acres of land on which to build an abode for his family. For a poor timber laborer, this was an amazing offer for future prosperity and the land that would be his own. In addition to his wages, he would receive two acres of land on which to build an abode for his family. For a poor timber laborer, this was an amazing offer for future prosperity and the land that would be his own.

However, those are memories from nearly seven decades ago. Today, Anna can only wistfully dream about climbing the wide spreading branches of the large Oak tree standing in the courtyard outside her apartment window. The tree on the plains near the home of her youth was not nearly as large and majestic, yet it provided her refuge and respite from her clamoring siblings when her chores allowed.

Anna would steal away with one of her few precious books and climb into the fragrant greenery of her beloved tree. She felt the vibrations of life within the tree pulse through her body as she leaned against its trunk. Often she would read the story aloud, in a soft whisper, to the tree for she was sure it was listening and she wanted to share the adventure.

Books were a lifesaving link for Anna through all the pages of her life, but especially in those early years that disrupted the usual family dynamic. When Anna had the opportunity to escape adulthood and climb her tree, it was a moment of joy. Tucked into the notch between branch and trunk, she would settle back into the "arms" of her tree. As the tree's vibrations echoed down her spine, she would open her book and be transported beyond the reality down below.

Young Anna traveled widely, visiting so many cultures, cities, countries, and enjoyed many adventures from her aerie perch. Her imagination captured the sounds, smells, and visual aspects of every character and place that walked across the pages of each story. It was during the middle years of her life that Anna fulfilled a dream and visited many of the places only known through the pages of a book during her youth.

Rousing from her memories, she gazed out the window at that beautiful Oak in the courtyard once again. Staring out at this mighty giant, this friend of old, Anna thought she heard it whisper to her – "Please come and climb into my arms and read me a story".

At first, she resisted the faint call believing it was only an aberration. Then that tomboyish girl of her youth dared her to fly once again as she joined the whispering plea of the tree. Anna rose from her chair with the aches of old age a reminder of the years that had accumulating on her small frame. She gazed at the tree standing tall and strong among the flowers of the courtyard. With the eagerness of the long, lost child within, Anna grabbed her book and headed out the door. 📖

THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE, 2022

As we have noted previously, the costs of printing and mailing continue to increase while there has been no price increases in subscription costs. To maintain the affordability of this journal for our subscribers, after much consideration, we have reluctantly made the decision to begin publishing *The Microbibliophile* in a digital only format in January 2022. The exact details have not been fully vetted, but more than likely it will be a full-color PDF document distributed via e-mail to each subscriber. The page size and typography will remain as it is currently presented, including the cover photo image.

Beginning with this issue, I will send a digital copy to a portion of the subscribers and increase the distribution with each subsequent issue. The existing paper production will continue through the December 2021 issue. That way everyone will have an opportunity to view the digital publication and provide feedback on any readability or home printing issues that may arise.

This change will not eliminate all the costs associated with the publication because there are a few 'fixed-cost' expenses that will remain even without the full printing and mailing costs, such as insurance fees, state tax fees, post-office box fees, and the occasional office supplies. The anticipated subscription rate, at this time, will be \$20 per year, regardless of your mailing address.

Thank you in advance, for your understanding and support and I welcome your feedback. 📖

THE WESTERN ELECTRIC TELEPHONE & THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK, By Jan Becker:

We acquired this beautiful Western Electric wall telephone when we bought our home in 1978, from the previous owners who preferred to leave it in place. The antique phone had been updated with a rotary dial sometime in the late 60's or early 70's to make it fully functional, though honestly, not very practical. It is definitely a conversation piece, to converse into and to converse about. The date stamp of the upgrade on the inside is unfortunately smudged, but the wiring layout schematic attached to the inside of the front panel is intriguing, as is of course the entire body of phone workings.

I purchased some 50's era plastic advertising gadgets, 2 of them, at an antique store. The tag indicated that they were "rotary phone dialers". One is pink, 3 ¼ inches tall, and

advertises a furniture store in Dayton, Ohio, called Fashion Furniture (no longer exists) and was made by the Dard company in Evanston, Indiana, a company still in business.

The other is a black rotary dialer, 3 inches tall, and contains a miniature book! Yes, a tiny directory, 26 gold toned cards bound into the handle by a grommet type hinge, which allows the pages to fan out.



Each 2 inch by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch page has rounded corners and:

Name _____

No. _____

Address _____

The pages are printed in brown ink, front and back. Many are filled in with black ink cursive handwriting, names of people and companies in Ohio, and other states near and far.

The dialer has the title "MY LITTLE BLACK BOOK - DIAL FILE" on the spine. The advertising was for an appliance and TV sales and service company, Gudorf & Moorman, in Minster, Ohio. This company is no longer in business but with a little research, I discovered the 2 last names have family connections to each other and are still common in the area. The maker of the dialer is still in business, and has been since 1902, the

Vernon Company, in Newton, Iowa, USA. At the top of each dialer is a round knob with a flair which fits down into the rotary phone dial. Using this gadget instead of one's index finger while dialing saves the manicure. It is a long trek to get those higher numbers and the zero all the way around that dial. You younger people don't even know what I am talking about, do you?

The knob on the black dialer has a hole in it, to make it into a key chain or attach to the phone, you don't want to lose those contacts' important information. No Google. Again, what is she talking about? 📖



BOOKISH QUOTE:

George Eliot

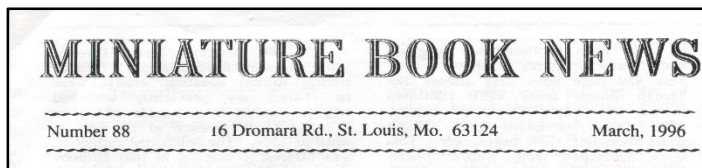
Books are the oldest and most constant of friends, they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers. 📖

TODD'S LIST of LISTS, By Todd Sommerfeld:

After reading the article about Bradbury's 100 Favorite Miniature Books in the last issue of *The Microbibliophile* I got to thinking about what my list would look like. Now, I love lists, and use them frequently, but I just cannot bring myself to make a favorites list because it would just keep expanding indefinitely. Instead, I will document, for you, seven of my favorite lists that have given me an excellent framework for my collecting.

A. **The Six Publishers of the Miniature Book Renaissance.** Information about this list can be found in Bradbury's *20th Century United States Miniature Books* on page XII. The six publishers on this list began publishing limited edition miniature books in the early 1960s, in part, as a result of the publication of *The Miniature Book Collector* in 1960.

1. Black Cat Press (Norman Forgue) 1961
2. Hillside Press (Frank and Eleanor Irwin) 1961
3. Dawson's Book Shop (Glen and Mary Helen Dawson) 1962
4. Press of Ward Schori (Ward K. Schori) 1962
5. REM Miniatures (Robert E. Massmann) 1962
6. Press of the Indiana Kid (James Lamar Weygand) 1963

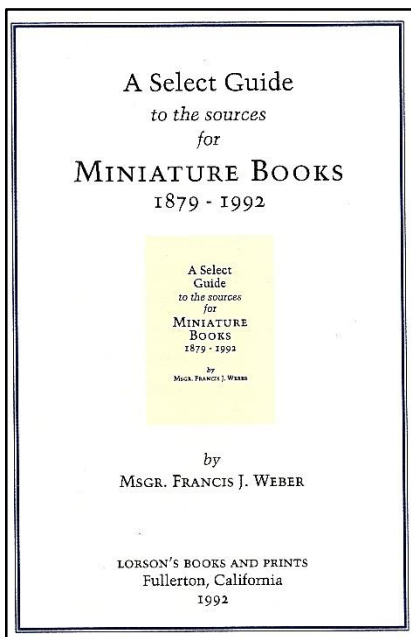


B. **Ruth Adomeit's 'Five Favorite Miniature Book Printers'.** Ruth created this list in conjunction with her massive Cleveland Public Library exhibit of miniature books in 1989. A printed copy of the list can be found in an article in the *Miniature Book News* (MBN) #88, March 1996, page 7.

1. Doris V. Welsh (Petit Oiseau Press)
2. Burt Randle
3. William Lewis Washburn
4. Bernhardt Wall
5. Alexander C. Wirth (Proof Press)

C. Ruth Adomeit's 'Basic Books for a Serious Collector'. Additionally, this list also originated with the 1989 exhibit and contains 32 'high-point' miniature books. The list can be found in MBN #64, March 1990. This list would have been a challenge to fill in 1989, and is nearly impossible without very deep pockets today, but it is fun to dream. The list does contain more than a few items that are also on the 'Bradbury 100 List'. There is a lot of interesting books on the Adomeit list which certainly warrant future discussions. The list as published in the MBN is reprinted in this issue of *The Microbibliophile* so that you can view the 32 titles as well as the explanations about the books that Adomeit gave to Julian I. Edison, the Editor of the MBN.

D. *A Select Guide for the Sources of Miniature Books 1879-1992*, by Msgr. Francis J. Weber. The 82-page book lists 175 books, periodicals, and articles related to miniature books.



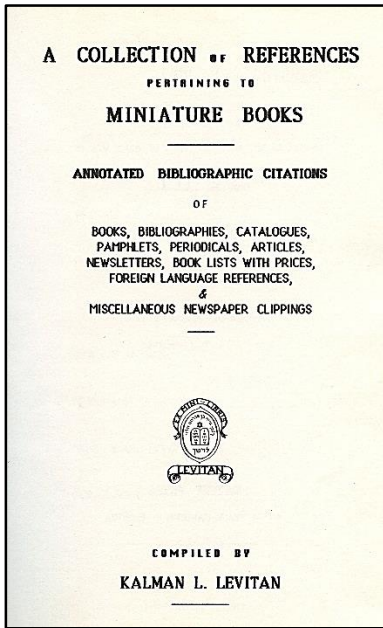
Title Page

book size 7 1/4" x 5"

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E. *In Search of Miniature Books*, by Kalman J. Levitan in 1985 is a list of 387 miniature book references.



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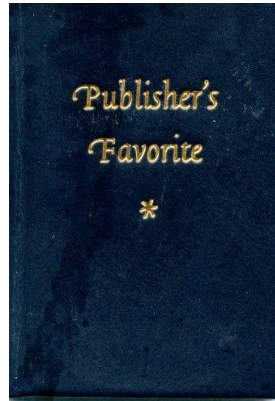
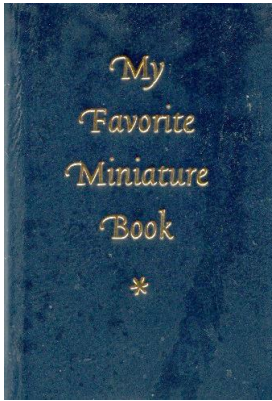
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book size 8 3/4" x 6 3/8"

F & G. *My Favorite Miniature Book*, published in 1984, by Charlotte Smith published a miniature, under her Tamazunchale Press imprint. *My Favorite Miniature Book* contains essays by nine prominent collectors describing their favorite miniature books. *Publisher's Favorite*, another miniature, published by Smith in 1988 contains essays by six contemporary miniature book publishers describing the book they most enjoyed making.

I will stop with seven for now, but would briefly like to mention that the lists I use most are the bibliographies by Adomeit, Bradbury, Welsh, and others, but that is another list of lists, maybe Todd's Lists of Lists Part II.

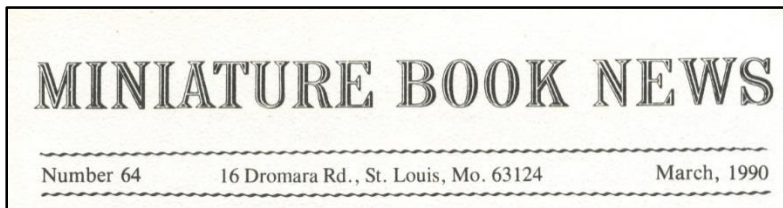


As always, questions, comments, and criticisms are welcome at your convenience. 📖

Contact information: Todd Sommerfeld, E-mail: contratodd@gmail.com

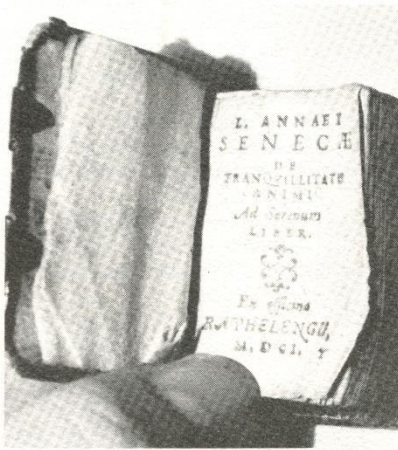
Editor's Note: There is a small 'typo' in the MBN #88, March 1996, page 8, (Item Number 9), where it refers to the 'Basic Books for a Serious Collector', as being included in the MBN Nbr 65, the list was included with the MBN Nbr. 64.

BOOKS FOR A SERIOUS COLLECTOR



Editor's Note: Ruth Adomeit was certainly a central figure in the world of miniature book collecting; a woman with an encyclopedic mind, always full of tenacity and enthusiasm. The following list, published in the Miniature Book News, Number 64, Julian I. Edison, Editor, is provided here for your enjoyment and pleasure. I present the information with scanned images of the actual MBN publication to capture Adomeit's comments and observations as given to Edison.

- 4) (Thoma a Kempis) **De imitatione Christi...** Coloniae, Sumptibus Bernardi Gualteri, 1611. (470) p. 2 3/4 x 1 3/4 ins.
- 5) Lipsius. **de Constantia.** (Leyden) ex officina Plantiniana..., 1615. (240 ?) p. 2 3/4 x 1 3/4 ins.
- 6) Seneca...**de tranquillitate animi ad serenum liber.** (Leyden) Ex officina Raphelengii, 1601. 349 p. 1 3/4 x 1 1/4 ins.



Title page from 1601 Seneca, de tranquillitate, same edition as in The Huntington Library. Approximately actual size.

MORE ON CLEVELAND MAXI EXHIBIT

The last issue of MBN was devoted mostly to the prodigious exhibit of over 3,500 miniature books at the Cleveland Public Library from the collection of Ruth E. Adomeit.

In that exhibit she displayed a list of "Basic Books for a Serious Collector." Ruth formulated this list from her

broad and deep experience and a lifetime of collecting in our field. After the exhibit I asked Ruth for her reasons for choosing the 32 items on it. Ruth's list, together with her explanations and some additional research, follows:

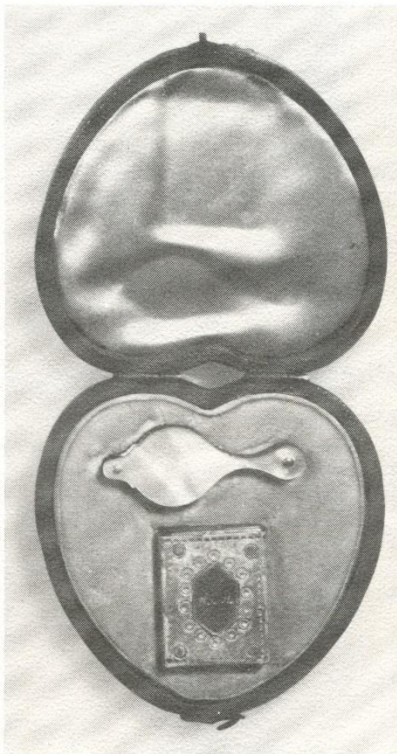
- 1) **Evangile Selon St. Matthieu**, Enschede Haarlem. 1900. Printed with Henry Didot's tiny 2½ point moveable type.
- 2) Boreman **Westminster Abbey III**, London or any other Gigantic History 1740-43. These were the first books made for children, in any size, that were strictly for pleasure, not for instruction.
- 3) **Young Sportsman's Instructor**. London. ca. 1700. One of the rarest and most unusual miniature books; earliest miniature book on angling, fowling, hawking, hunting, and other sports. Reprinted because of its popularity in 1820.
- 4) Rochefoucauld's **Maximes et Reflexions Morales**. Paris. The first book printed with Didot's type. 1827. Printed with Henry Didot's tiny 2½ point moveable type. Beautifully printed, and usually found in magnificent bindings, elaborately gilt tooled.
- 5) **New Testament** in Greek, Sedan. 1628-29. Earliest and finest miniature type in Greek.
- 6) Petrarca's **Le Rime**, Ongania, Venice. 1879. Unusually beautiful production of a microscopically printed book, 2 volumes in one, with 354 and 231 pages. This book was encouraged by the printing of the Dante, **Divina Commedia**, one year earlier (see No. 10 below), using the same Dantino type, but it is much rarer than the Dante work.
- 7) Gresset's **Ver-Vert**, Laurent et Deberny, Paris. 1855. One of the outstanding French miniature books, printed in another clear and

beautiful microscopic type.

- 8) Dods's **Handbook of Practical Cookery**, Eyre & Spottiswoode, London. 1906. Famous, rare, and most complete miniature cook book ever produced.
- 9) **Bible in Miniature**, E. Newbery, London. 1780. The most common, and popular, early miniature thumb Bible; best known because it was published by Elizabeth Newbery who was related to John Newbery, the author and publisher of many pioneering children's books. Comes in various imprints, and usually in lovely red or brown morocco, elaborately gilt tooled.
- 10) Dante's **Divina Commedia**, Tip. Salmin, Padova. 1878. Printed with the famous "fly's eye" type by the brother of Salmin of Padua. Perhaps the most outstanding Italian contribution to microbookdom, the **Divina Commedia** contains 499 numbered pages. One of the legends that developed about this microscopic production is that, according to the Grolier Club list of miniature books, page 129, "the work is said to have seriously injured the eyesight of both the compositor and the corrector. It took one month to print 30 pages..." Still the smallest type in existence, about 2-point, almost illegible to the naked eye.
- 11) **Galleria Dantesca Microscopica**, Hoepli, Milan. 1880. Printed also with the tiny "fly's eye" type, and contains 30 photographs representing perhaps the earliest use of photography in a miniature book.
- 12) Snagg's **The Famous History of Valentine and Orson**. Evans and Ruffy, London. 1801, or any other volume in this series. Among the greatest rarities of English miniature books.
- 13) **Schloss's English Bijou Almanac**, London. 1836-1843. In case with

magnifying glass. Most famous and smallest engraved English Almanacks (about 13/16 by 5/8 inches).

- 14) **t'Oranje Geslagt**, H. Spoomaker, Groningen. 1749. Smallest 18th century book.
- 15) **The Smoker's Text Book**, J. Hamer, Leeds. 1863. Other editions in 1866, 1870, 1874. Very popular English miniature book.



Schloss English Bijou Almanac in its fitted velvet lined morocco heart-shaped box, with mother-of-pearl magnifying glass. No. 13 in accompanying article. Actual size.

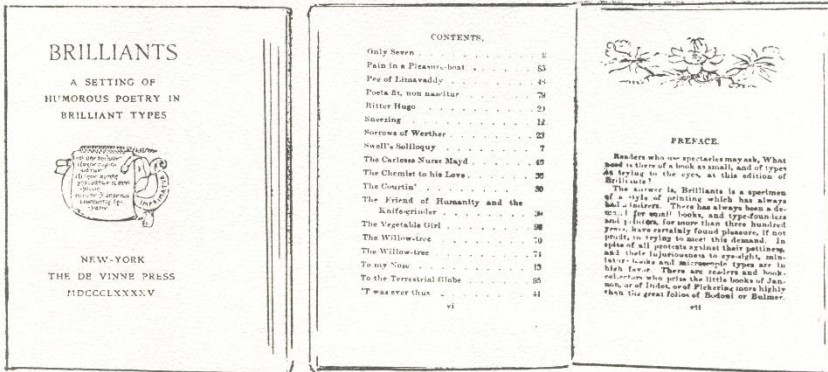
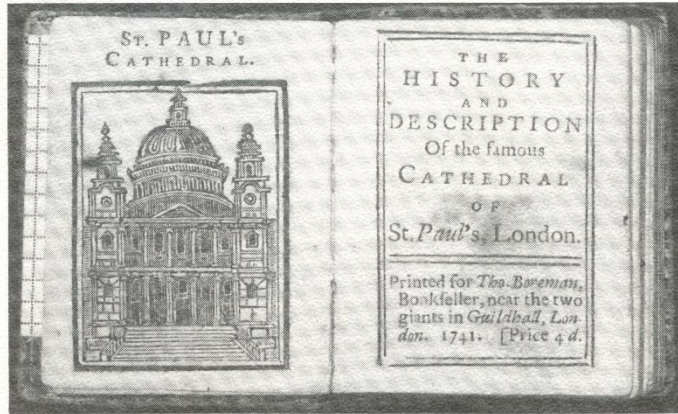
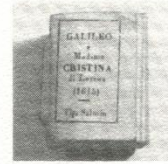
- 16) **The Holy Bible**, David Bryce & Son, Glasgow. 1895. The smallest complete **Bible** (876 thin india paper pages, 1 3/4 x 1 1/4 inches). Many thousands of copies were printed, making this the most widely published, and most commonly found of the many Bryce productions.
- 17) **The New Testament**, David Bryce & Son, Glasgow. 1895. The smallest complete **New Testament**.
- 18) **The Smallest English Dictionary**, David Bryce & Son, Glasgow. n.d. (The title speaks for itself).
- 19) **My Tiny Alphabet Book**, David Bryce & Son, Glasgow, ca. 1900. Colored illustrations of birds and animals. The smallest publication with colored illustrations up to the time of its printing.
- 20) **The Koran**, David Bryce & Son, Glasgow. ca. 1900. About 1 1/8 inch tall.
- 21) **The Mite**, Robinson, Grimsby, England. 1891. Smallest book printed from moveable type until the **Galileo** appeared in 1896 (see No. 23).
- 22) **Addresses of Abraham Lincoln**, 1929; **Autobiography of Calvin Coolidge**, 1930; **Washington's Farewell Address** 1932. Kingsport Press, Kingsport, Tennessee. Among the most famous American miniature books, printed and bound by students as a part of their training at the Kingsport Press.
- 23) **Galileo a Madama Cristina di Lorena**, Tip. Salmin, Padova. 1896. The outstanding marvel of miniature bookmaking; with 207 pages, **Galileo** remains the smallest book printed from moveable type. 17 x 10 mm. (5/8 x 3/8 inches), page size.
- 24) **Bijou Picture of London and Bijou Picture of Paris**, Rock & Co., London. ca. 1850. A number of other titles in this same series. Part of the rare series of the most beautifully engraved miniature books; engraved throughout.
- 25) de Vinne's **Brilliants**, New York. 1895. One of the most sought after miniature books because of its typographic beauty; first miniature book printed with the new "brilliant" 4-point type of Miller and Richard.
- 26) Smallest complete Hebrew Bible, M.M. Scholtz, n.p., n.d. (title speaks for itself).
- 27) **Calendrier de tous les Saints**, France, ca. 1800, All engraved pictorial volumes, bound as 12 or 4. Very rare, early and unusual engraved set of 12 tiny books (3/4 by 5/8")
- 28) **Horace**, A. Mesnier and A. Sautelet, Paris. 1828. Printed with famous Didot type.
- 29) **De Flagrorum usu in re veneria**. Meibomius. London. 1665. Actually said to have been printed in Paris in 1757. Earliest miniature book on flagulation, an unusual subject for its time.
- 30) **Short Account of the First Rise and Progress of Printing**. T. Parker Jun, London. ca. 1763. Rarest book in typographical literature.
- 31) **Almanachs**, C. F. Miller, Carlsruhe, Germany. 1817-1840. Earliest miniature book using lithographic printing process.



The Mite, 1891, front cover, as listed in No. 21 of Cleveland Exhibit Article.

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Continued on page 8



Top left photo is No. 12 in accompanying article. Top right photo is No. 23, Middle photo is one in the Gigantic History series of No. 2, and bottom line cut is No. 25 in the article. All are depicted close to or actual size.

32) Rich's **New Testament in Shorthand, Psalms in Shorthand**, London, ca. 1660. Smallest books engraved in shorthand writing.

Any serious collector would want to have these in his/her collection, ac-

ording to Ruth Adomeit, but some are so rare that they are not likely to be acquired today. However, for most collectors, the chase is at least half the fun.



Top photo is title page from No. 30 in accompanying article. Bottom is frontispiece and title page from No. 32.

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THAT GIANT BOOKCASE, Some Notes from Kathryn Rickard:

Depending where you are within the world of miniature books, you may know all about Kathryn Rickard or maybe this is a new name for you. Let me first say that Rickard was an avid collector of miniature books as well as a publisher of more than a few of her own miniatures. She amassed a collection of more than 5,000 miniatures and chronicled her publishing and collecting experiences in her book, *My Adventures in Minibibliomania*, (1996). Along the way, as she moved through the bookshelves and relationships of collecting and publishing, Rickard befriended another collector/publisher, Doris Varner Welsh, who published under the press name of 'Petit Oiseau Press'. As part of her friendship with Welsh, Rickard published two important reference works that had been written by Welsh in the 1960's, but due to medical issues Doris was not able to bring the books to fruition.

These two books are full-size volumes with the first, *A History of Miniature Books*, published in 1987 and the second, *A Bibliography of Miniature Books, 1470 - 1965*, published in 1989. They are both extremely important reference volumes for collectors today. Louis Bondy called Welsh 'one of the greatest authorities' concerning miniature books and Rickard later published a biography of Welsh; it is titled *A Lady and Her Books*.

Rickard was a meticulously accurate and disciplined record keeper regarding her correspondence and ephemera. I can report this first hand because years ago, I was able to add some of her notebooks and correspondences to my personal collection. However, as we are all mortal, Rickard was consumed by her growing book collection as are most collectors. The following draft of 'an article' by Richard, complete with her corrections, speaking about her storage problems and solution is particularly interesting. Sherry supplied the Rickard ephemera from Jon's collection. (If you want to read more about Doris Varner Welsh you can refer to the *MBS Newsletter* Nbr. 94, November 2014, the relationship with Rickard is also highlighted.)

Over the last few years, we have published at least two articles about bookshelves and miniature book storage ideas and solutions. The first was published in the March 2014 issue and the second was published in the May 2017 issue of *The Microbibliophile*. I have included a reprint of the 2017 article in this issue, as I am sure there are readers who may be reading the presentation for the first time or even those who may want to revisit the situations of storage and possible solutions. If you would like a 'reprint of the 2014 article, just send me your request via email.

Enjoy the read.



Mrs. Kathryn I. Rickard
R.D. 1, Carlisle Rd.
Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043

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That Giant Bookcase

Up until a few ~~months~~ ^{YEARS} ago I had not ~~had~~ ^{never spoken} any contact with another miniature book collector. I was a neophyte, a Babe in the Woods. All I had was imagination and a few little books that I didn't know what to do with. Then one day, out of the blue, I ^{received} had a notice from Norman Forgue ^{stating} saying he had a few bookcases for sale. I sent for ^{it then because of it} one, and ~~thereby~~ ^{begin,} hangs this tale.

When the ^{book arrived} case came, the glass in the door was cracked so I took it to the lumber company to have a new one put in. I brought it home and set it on top of my roll top desk. Beautiful, ^{I looked at it} but what in the world was I going to do with all that shelf space? I'd ^{it since measured} never have enough books to fill that. It was about 15" x 22" and ^{contained} had four shelves. Well, of course, I could fill it up with knick-knacks. Famous last words.

As time went on I bought a book here and a book there. I had no resistance at all to these little tempters. It got so bad that I was forever going in the little bookcase to look and touch and re-arrange. And every time I did I got hit on the head and all the books fell out. It seems that the lumber company had put in too heavy a glass and it made the bookcase door-heavy, shall we say. The only solution was to buy another case and keep the books I looked at the most in that. So I did. Then I bought more books, and then another book case, ^{and another} until there were five. It had to stop! I ^{similar to} now had another like the first one and ^{because I was always re-arranging,} I could never remember which was door-heavy so I was always getting hit on the head and dumping the books. That was not a good situation so I wised up. I had to. It was a choice of being wise or punch-drunk. I chose to be wise.

In the same room with the little bookcases was a wall of cabinets containing thirty sections to hold my miniature collection - just miniatures, no little books. I decided to take one section and have ^{two} 2 narrow shelves built in. On these shelves I would put the books I looked at, ^{the} most. It was perfect. No more ^{the head-bumping stopped.} bumped heads. ^{Instead there were} Just broken finger nails from the tiny indentations ^{used} to slide the glass doors back and forth. But finger nails grow. Heads don't. Time passed. ^{and I added miniature which required more space} More books. More space needed. I shoved aside



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six times!

Naft

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more miniatures and added more shelves. I did this six times! I bought a label-maker and put the names of publishers on the shelves in alphabetical order so I could find any book I wanted easily. I kept the odds and ends in the little bookcases. Now I was in control and not the books. Wasn't that the perfect solution? Ha! Don't. Not really. try it. It wasn't --- unless you never collect anymore books than you have right now. Think about it. Every time I got a shelf fixed up for Black Cat, for instance, Norman came out with another book or I found one of his earlier ones that I didn't have. Even the St. Onge space had to get bigger. I allowed enough space, I thought, for all his books but I hadn't counted on different versions, different bindings, different whatever.

And I certainly hadn't counted on taking two more shelves for reference books and other miniature books. (If you think a miniature book is a miniature book, you're new to this mania.) Now it was time to consider where I was going with this collecting business. I really thought long and hard and I decided I was having too much fun to stop and I would continue this most absorbing of all hobbies. I still wasn't aware that I was not only a ^{micro}minibibliophile, I was a ^{micro}minibibliomaniac. And there is no known cure. There are no will-power pills. *simply because*

If only I could say ^{STOP} "stop" to those lists from Bromer's and Dawson's, ^{the} and Ha' Penny, and Lorson's ^{the publishers'} and Miscellaneous. But I could not. I decided to limit myself to books between 1" and 3". Was I firm? You can bet on it. Ah, the relief. Once again I was in control. This was the second time so it was easier and the control lasted longer. Certainly it did. About one month longer. Darn that Barbara Raheb! Remember the day you got that brown catalog from her? Think about it and don't judge me. You're probably as bad as I am.

I bought more books, of course, and by now the space situation was serious. I had to have more room. The solution was simple. I sold all my miniatures - ^{in place of them I} well, almost all of them - ^{and} the cabinets plus the small bookcases. I designed a ^{new} bookcase and had it ^{built with a bookcase} made. It's seven feet wide ^{by} and six and one-half feet high. ^{these are above dining} It has ^{was} eight shelves on each side on the top for the miniature books and 3 on each side on the bottom for reference books, odd size sets, tiny bookcases and odds and ends. I found a label maker that prints vertically and I had dividers made to put between the publishers. I'm all set. I have loads of space left and every book that I ~~put~~



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put in that bookcase is catalogued and has my book plate in it. Are you that well organized?

Of course I had to have another bookcase made to fit on top of my roll top desk. It contains all the books not yet catalogued and it's almost full. H m -m-m- m. I wonder where I can put another book case. There's lots of room along the wall where the big book case is - - - - - I could put one there - - - - - and those lists keep coming - - - - - and I'm not a purist on size, I'm a lover of all little books right up to six inches - - - - and that bookcase in the den for the bigger little books is full too - - - - - Oh, well - - - - - Hello, Ron, is that you? Guess what. I need another bookcase.

Wasn't that interesting. We are all different, we are all separated by many miles; however, we are all more similar than we think and we are all close regarding the world of miniature books and the joy it brings to many. 📖

BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS,

By Nina Mazzo:

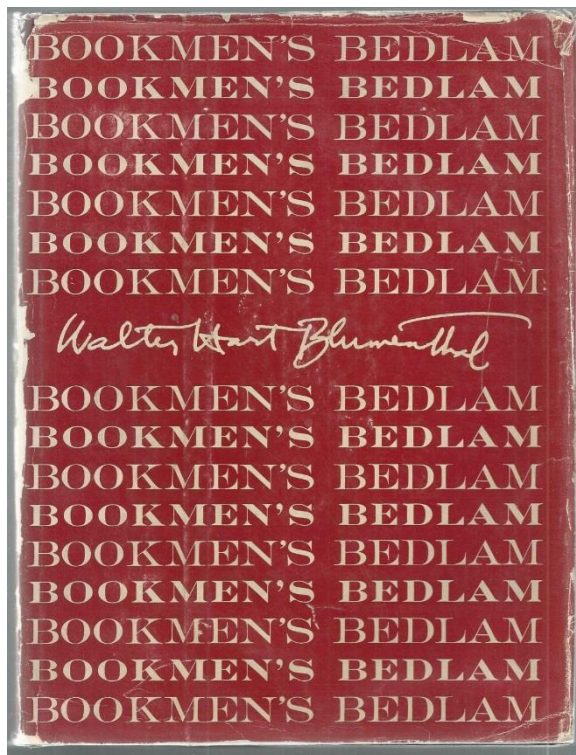
I enjoy collecting books about books and when I read the article in the January issue of *The Microbibliophile*, I appreciated discovering a couple I did not own. Today, I want to share some information from a book titled *Bookmen's Bedlam* by Walter H. Blumenthal. The dedication page reads: "To a quartet of departed cronies who were chronic bookmen, Dr. A. S.W Rosenbach, Alwin Scheur, Arthur Pforzheimer and Wilbur Macey Stone." I thought 'aha' when I saw the name Wilbur M. Stone, there might be something in this book regarding miniature books. Yep, as I turned the pages, I came across a chapter titled "Lilliputs or Midget Books" and the following are some highlights from this article.

The author's writing is never boring and he has a great sense of humor. He writes "Many a wee volume ...hidden in secret secretaries and handed down from parent to child with the family laces and jewels, finally finds its way to alien but appreciative hands."

Embroidered small books of the 17th century are prized for their needlework usually ascribed to one of those from the Protestant Nunnery of Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire, England. He notes that several are preserved in the British Museum.

The Psalmorum Liber of Christopher Plantin (Antwerp, 1584) is a classic specimen of typography. The book is bound in crimson morocco covered with a network of gold tooling and silver clasps in the form of mussel shells.

"Wilbur Macey Stone in 1926 issued through the Carteret Book Club a treatise limited to 200 copies titled *A Snuff-Boxful of Bibles*." This book recounts some facts about miniature Bibles.



First edition, book jacket image, book size 8 x 10"

A “bibliopegic“ was an unfamiliar term to me but I discovered it simply means the art of binding books. He provides an example by a French bookbinder Marius Michel on his work with *The Compleat Angler* bound in dark green morocco.

In 1894, Georges Salomon of Paris dispersed a collection of 700 miniature books, a library which could be carried in a moderate sized portmanteau.

In 1878, an edition of Dante’s *La Divina Commedia* was printed by the Salmin Brothers of Padua. It is 2 ½ by 1 ½ inches with thirty-one lines to the text page. It contained all 14,323 verses of the poem and it took them over five years to complete. They then took one month to print the 32 pages.

*Brilliant*s is a book of humorous poetry printed by the DeVinne Press in New York in 1895. There are about twelve hundred distinct pieces of metal in a square inch of this type.

He concludes this chapter by saying “There is a fondness for these literary morsels; the relish of tiny tomes, once acquired, is like the legendary taste for peacocks’ tongues! As one collector of another day said condescendingly of Samuel Johnson’s penchant for folios: Sir, he hath never fed of the dainties that are bred in a little booke.”

I agree wholeheartedly – well except for the part about peacocks’ tongue...

Always a joy. 📖

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Always Room for another book on the shelf...



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

(Reprinted from the May 2017 issue of *The Microbibliophile*)

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),



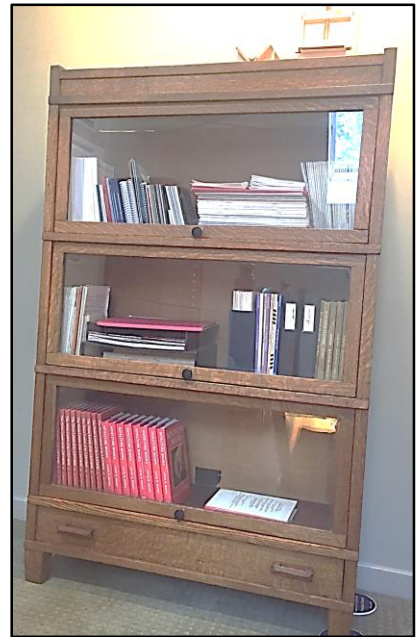
and 16" from front to rear. As a storage solution, each drawer would easily store 40 books of about 3/8" thickness; the entire cabinet could possible store 2000 books, 50 in each drawer times 40 drawers. Card catalogue cabinets are generally available from second hand furniture or antique dealers. A 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 20th 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.

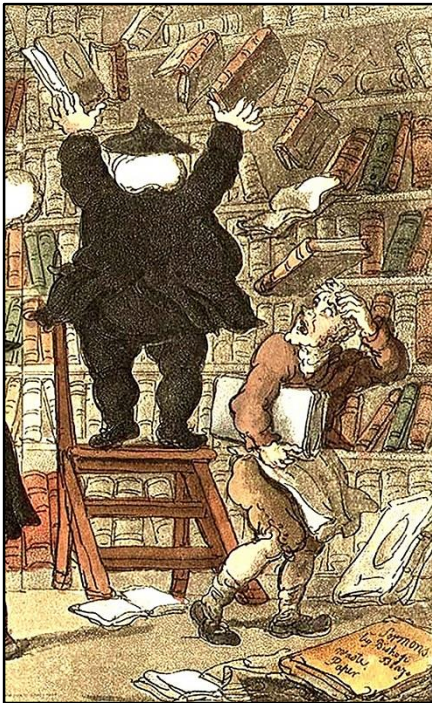
Making this bookcase/cabinet into a treasure chest for miniature books was relatively simple. Small miniature 'boxes' were constructed to sit on each of the original shelves, the new boxes are 8" high x 4" deep x 22" and are built with an intermediate shelf. Each box can hold approximately 66 books using 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. 📖



Be careful and do not let those bookshelves get to over crowded !

**MEET THE COLLECTOR,
Joe Sciascia, London England:**

My Lockdown Friends

Over the past year life for all of us has changed in so many unrecognizable ways. Personally for me I can honestly say that without my treasured little bibliofriends I'm not so sure I would have survived. It certainly brought home to me how much we take for granted in our everyday lives & realizing the wonderful companionship our little books give us when need a friend in difficult times & lockdown. At the beginning of March last year I had added a little publication by the highly respected author Msgr Francis J Weber entitled "Minibibliophilia" & I realized how just immersing ourselves in almost any of his special books we garner comfort and inspiration to help us cope in difficult & challenging times. In quite a very short period I have managed to build up my own very modest

71
collection some very fine bindings by other
great authors & publishers like the great
Achille St. Onge, David Bryce & many others
too numerous to mention, all of whom have in
their own inimitable way inspired me & without
whom I don't believe I could have survived
as well as I have. Over this past year I have
also developed new friendships during this
very difficult time. Stephen Byrne has
been an inspiration to me, as I'm sure he
has been to so many in the past. Also
Maria Abelar Lussell for sharing her
passion of book collecting with me. I
hope I have given some pleasure & more
importantly encouragement to others to
continue with our enthusiasm to preserve
the great hobby of miniature book
collecting

Joe Sciascia

"I hope that I have given some pleasure & more importantly encouragement to others to continue with our enthusiasm and preserve the great hobby of miniature book collecting. Joe Sciascia." 📖

Contact information: Joe Sciascia, E-mail: jsciasciam@hotmail.co.uk

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Editor's Note: We traditionally do not move too far from the mainstream of 'bookish information' within the pages of 'The Microbibliophile', however, after receiving the 'written words from Joe', I had cause to think, handwriting is an art form, usually a joy to see and read. I was originally introduced to the 'Death of Cursive' in my Grandpa roll, doing homework with my grandchildren a few years ago. As explained in the article, my own penmanship became a mix of block printing and cursive some years ago, maybe when 'I walked to high school through snow deeper than my boots' or maybe as a college undergraduate. I am not sure and do not have a clear recollection of the timeframe. However, in the late 1990s I had to take the MCAT test for graduate school and as part of the on-site test I had to 'provide' a short biography of myself, written in cursive handwriting. A chill ran down my spine. I scrambled to write the words in my block/cursive scribble as I reached into my past to attempt to form the letters. It certainly did not win me an award for calligraphy but I did pass the test.

Mourning the Death of Cursive

*A universal soft spot for cursive writing might be the only reason we can't let it go.
Nicholas Gilmore*

Obsolete

I learned cursive handwriting in the second grade — concurrently with learning that Santa Claus was a hoax. The first word I learned to write in the august script was “Christmas.” Like a streaming ribbon across the page, the word was beautifully connected, seemingly designed to be written in one epic, fluent stroke. I scrawled a cursive “Christmas” on everything — notepads, used envelopes, a toy magnetic drawing board — like it was my own signature.

This was in the late '90s, when the D'Nealian method of handwriting offered a smooth transition to cursive learning by way of small “tails” at the ends of t's and i's that would, supposedly, nudge students toward polished, fluid script. I took these tails to their elaborate limits, forming an ostentatious descender from my name's “N” that wrapped

around the word to form the title above the “i,” sometimes as a flower or an exploding firework. My indulgence in an ornate signature throughout grade school was an imitation of my mother’s own dramatic autograph.

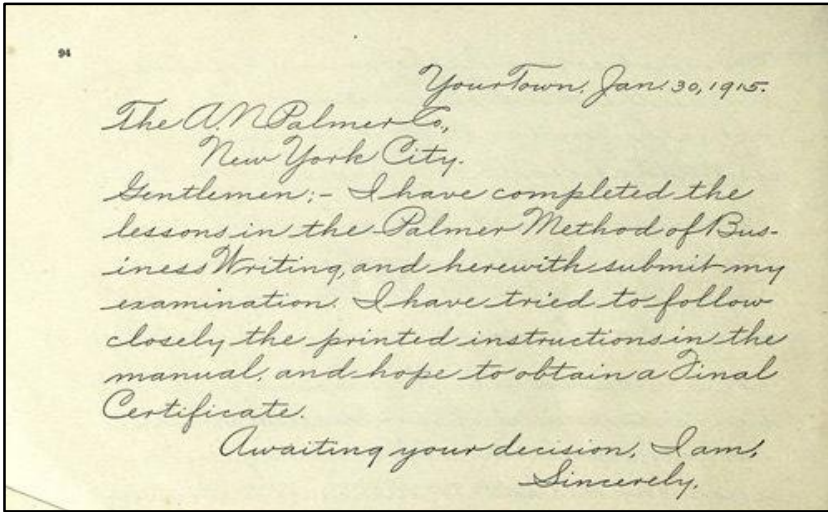
I imagine such a personal connection with cursive handwriting must be prevalent among other adults who remember a time before touch screens. Cursive seems to be linked, for many, to intellectual competence, identity, and even morality in the age of its decline. We can’t imagine a functional future that doesn’t include pretty writing. But, more importantly: *how could our children be deprived of the exact grueling tradition of penmanship education through which we all had to suffer?*

Our attachment to attached letters is rooted in our national identity. Cursive handwriting has a long, rich history in the U.S., from the copperplate lettering of the Declaration of Independence to the Spencerian script of the Coca-Cola logo. Author Anne Trubek has documented this, most notably in *The History and Uncertain Future of Handwriting*. The 19th century cursive school of Platt Rogers Spencer was flowery and elegant, based on the natural forms of trees and leaves, while the 20th century gave way to A.N. Palmer’s industrial age style, characterized by more rugged, efficient strokes. In a *Pacific Standard* article, Trubek writes, “Handwriting slowly became a form of self-expression when it ceased to be the primary mode of written communication. When a new writing technology develops, we tend to romanticize the older one. The supplanted technology is vaunted as more authentic because it is no longer ubiquitous or official.”

In 2010, the Common Core standards — detailed educational objectives encouraged by the U.S. Department of Education — omitted cursive writing from its curricula, declaring instead that students in kindergarten and first grade should learn to write in print proficiently before swiftly moving on to the keyboard. This has resulted in a years-long, nationwide debate over the usefulness of cursive script. In Indiana — one of eight states to opt out of Common Core standards — the fight for cursive is renewed each year by State Senator Jean Leising, who regularly puts forth a bill to require cursive in Indiana elementary schools. Leising notes the popularity of mandatory cursive, citing an Indiana Department of Education survey of 4,000 educators that showed 70 percent support, and rejects skeptical claims that cursive script is not a 21st-century skill. As the *Indianapolis Star* pointed out, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb writes his own signature in print.

The backlash against cursive’s obsolescence has taken both melancholic and wrathful tones. In 2015, a Facebook post showed a teacher’s reprimand of a supposed 7-year-old’s cursive signature on a homework assignment: “Stop writing your name in cursive. You have had several warnings.” The post was shared over a million times and drew comments from many claiming it was a clear indicator of everything wrong with education and, perhaps, society in general. We’ve all seen mournful accounts of graduate students who can’t read historic documents or a parent’s lament that letters sent to their child’s summer camp were unappreciated. And they are in good company with the army

of capitalized Facebook comments declaring cursive's extinction "RIDICULOUS !!!" But is it?



The Palmer Method of Business Writing.

Opinions on the usefulness of cursive sometimes focus on aspects of security: children "should, at the very least, learn their signature" or else they could be vulnerable to forgery. Marvin Sumner, a professor emeritus of Developmental Psychology at Western University, says forgery is indeed more difficult with cursive because there is "a more complicated series of motor movements involved than with block letters." That said, the argument might be ignoring the reality of signatures in the 21st century in the first place. The familiar index-finger scribbles on coffee shop iPads hardly resemble a Spencerian autograph, and many important tasks, like filing taxes or "signing" a lease, no longer require a handwritten signature at all.

The motor movements involved in handwriting are at the heart of its benefit, whether the writing is cursive or print. Simner notes that devoting attention span to learning the construction of letters adds the motor component to visual and aural learning of language. In the *Times*, Maria Konnikova writes, "children not only learn to read more quickly when they first learn to write by hand, but they also remain better able to generate ideas and retain information." Since cursive is thought to be faster, its adherents probably experience swifter and more coherent thought processes than printers, right?

The only problem is that cursive isn't faster. In "Cursive Handwriting and Other Educational Myths," *Nautilus* points to a 2013 study comparing the writing speeds of cursive French students and their printing Canadian peers. It found that, overall, cursive

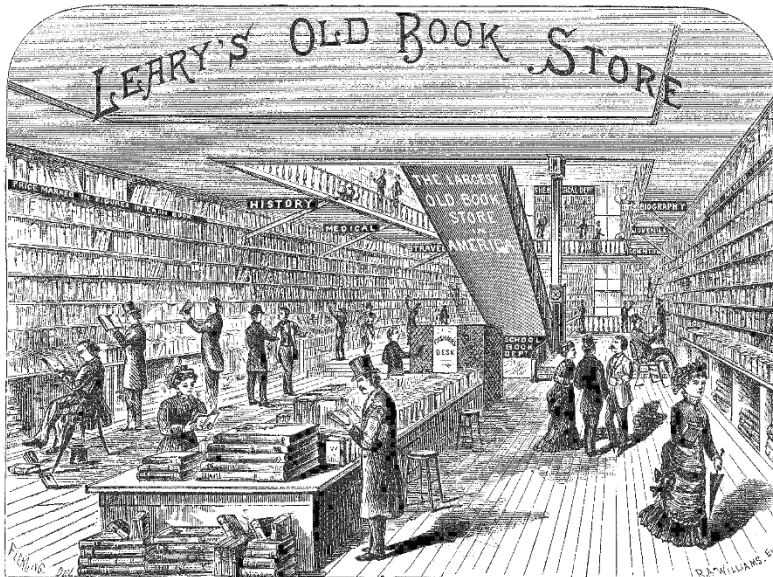
was slower than block print, “but fastest of all was a personalized mixture of cursive and manuscript developed spontaneously by pupils around the fourth to fifth grade.” If it isn’t more efficient, why are we perpetually trying to revive the corpse of cursive, anyway?

Could it be that the fine motor skills and neural pathways created during our taxing repetitions of loops and letterforms were accompanied by a sort of chirographic Stockholm syndrome? That we can only purge our obsessive devotion to curlicues and connected letters by passing it on to our young? With so many cursive enthusiasts in this country, you would think calligraphy was a much more universal hobby.

Like the Canadian students in the 2013 study, my own writing became a combination of print and cursive at some point in junior high. In my own signature, I traded the stylized “monkey’s tail” of a cursive “N” for a printed one with a final ascender that leaps off the page as if to say “block print can be exciting too!” When I am in the checkout line at the grocery store, however, I scratch in a sordid squiggle like everyone else.

There is a certain beauty and personalization, a statement about oneself in the written words on paper. What do you think? 📖

The reprint: <https://www.saturdayeveningpost.com/2018/01/mourning-death-cursive/>



EDWIN S. STUART, No. 9 South 9th St., Phila.

**MORE BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS,
BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 42,
'A Book of Small Flies' by Rene Harrop,
Reviewed by Patricia Pistner**

Editor's Note: Published by Isaac Oelgart, 1983, Oelgart was an antiquarian and rare book dealer specializing in sporting books. (Bradbury page 167 for more info)

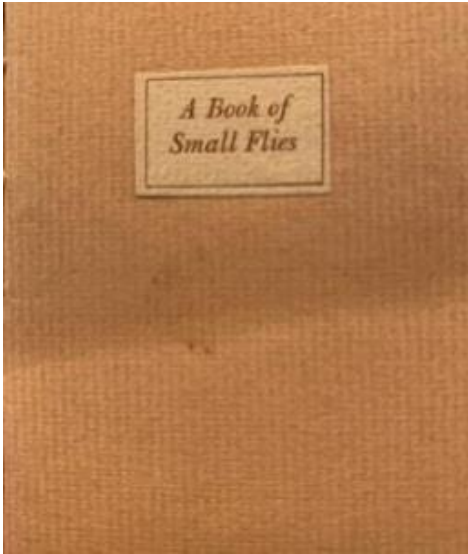
When Bob came out with his Bradbury 100 catalog in 1999, he and I spoke in depth about the list, and how he hoped that miniature book collectors would take it seriously. Interestingly enough, my dear friend Mel Kavin, believed that it was just an effort to sell books. However, Bob convinced me that the tomes were selected based on their excellent quality in various areas of the book arts. Already owning a large number of the books, I rounded out my collection from his catalog. The ensuing purchase gave me 98 of the Bradbury 100.

One of the elusive books was *The Book of Small Flies*. After a few years, one came to auction and I was determined to acquire it. Phew, when you go up against fly-fishing book collectors for a limited edition miniature book, you will pay a premium. But on reflection, it was worth it!

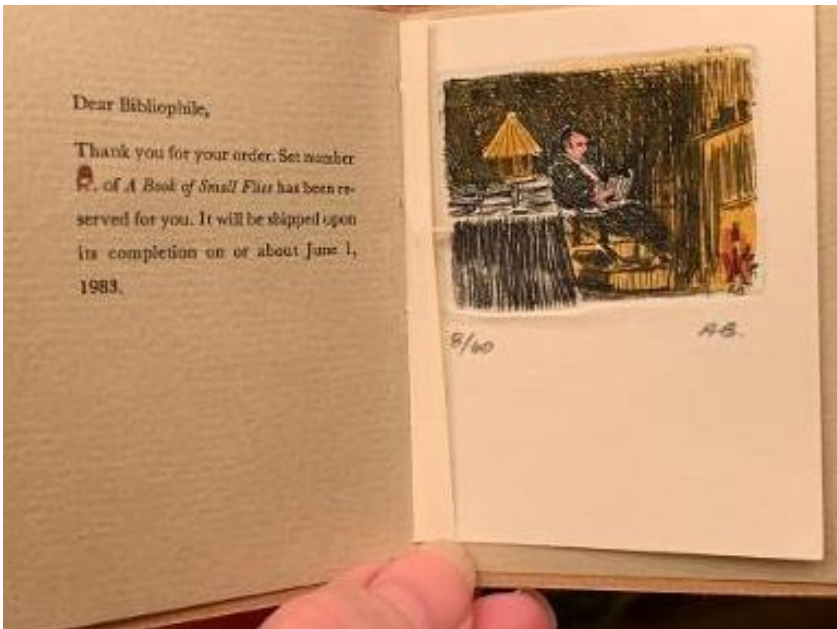
Not only was it a miniature book, decidedly beautifully letterpress printed, and included a color engraving, both by Al Barker. But the miniature tied-flies were stunning! Having come to miniature books by putting a library in a fine scale dollhouse I commissioned in 1990, the skill of the fly fishermen to tie flies in such incredible detail, awed me. And to this day, *The Book of Small Flies* is still one of my favorite books!

Seeing the article about the Bradbury 100 in the January issue of *The Microbibliophile* brought a sense of satisfaction. There is a debt we owe to Bob Bradbury for his two bibliographies that we all refer to. And if his top 100 picks are being seriously appreciated by miniature book collectors, it is a credit to him and to us all.

The following set of pictures will give you a glimpse of this fine book, a visual joy to behold.



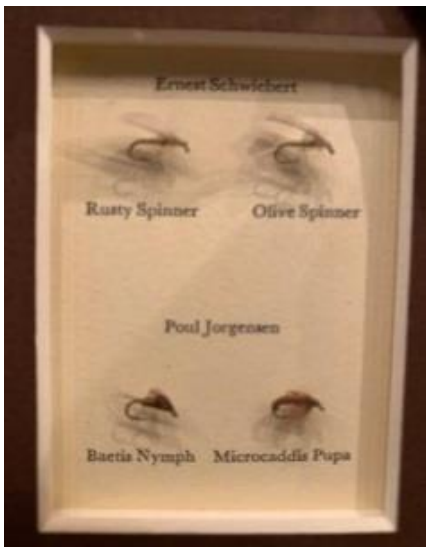
Prospectus cover



Prospectus pages



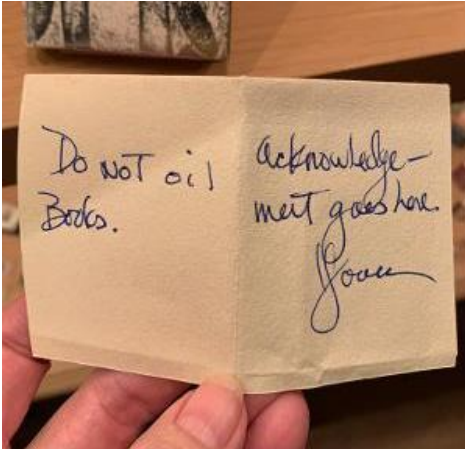
Volume 1 and Volume 2 'On the shelf'



Volume 1, (Left side)



Volume 1, (Right side)



Note from the publisher

Bob and I keep in touch, and I let him know he had succeeded. 📖

Contact information: Pat Pistner, E-mail: pistner@me.com

ANNOUNCEMENT, 'ALDUS MANUTIUS', New Book from Cyclone Press, Caroline Y. Brandt, Publisher

In 2015 the Grolier Club held an exhibition titled "Aldus Manutius: A Legacy More Lasting Than Bronze." Their 2020 *Gazette* contained articles about this 15th century printer and his Aldine Press. I was fascinated with the story of this printer who founded a press not long after moveable type was invented.

The publishing process is nearing completion; the book will be published in two edition, a standard edition by Plum Park Press, Tony Firman and a deluxe edition by Deborah Evetts.

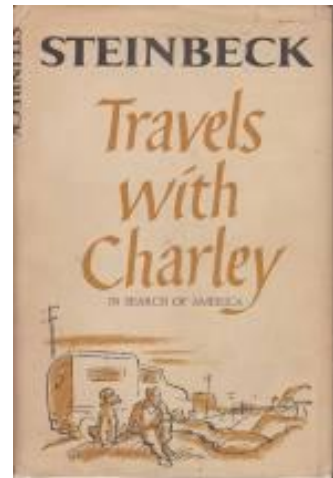
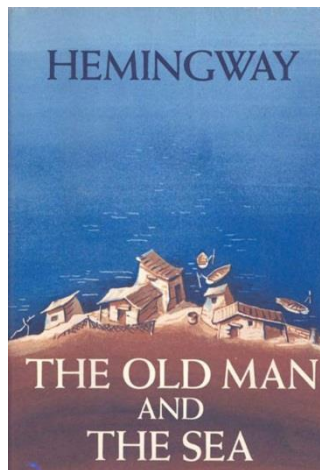
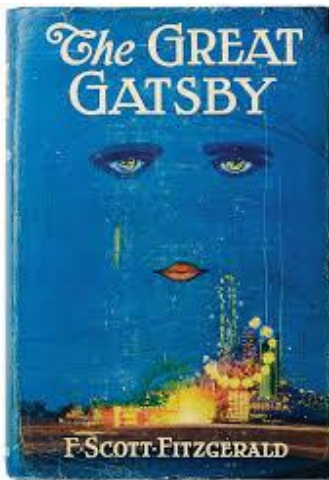
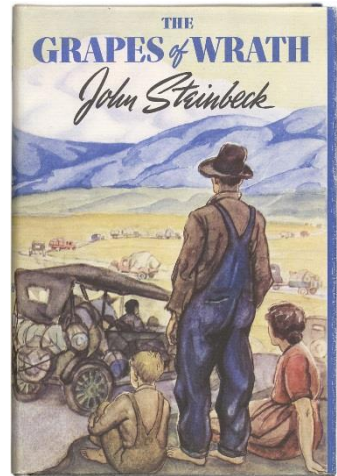
I'm excited about this the fourth and last publication of Cyclone Books and feel it is a fitting closure to my 85+ years and love of miniature books. To reserve a copy please contact me by telephone or snail mail:

Mrs. Caroline Y. Brandt,
1500 Westbrook Court, # 1109,
Richmond, VA, 23227,
Telephone 804-200-1260 📖

GREAT 20th CENTURY LITERATURE:

Each generation of time brings forth its own contributions of memorable literature. Here are a few items from the bookshelf, in their 'first edition' book jackets. Do these books exist in miniature book editions? Robert Hanson wrote more than a few words, in his miniatures, about Steinbeck, but actual editions of these books seem to have evaded miniature publication interest over time.

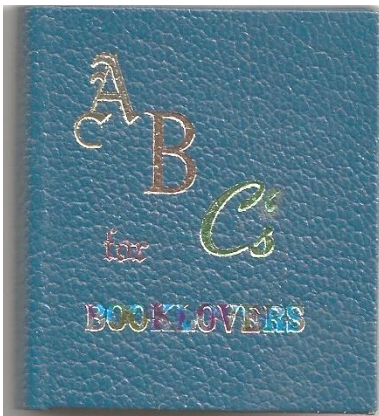
Certainly, characters such as Tom Joad and Ma Joad could tell us a few tales about life and the 'gnawing bones'. Jay and Daisy will forever dance the nights away. Santiago, with his sun-parched face and strong hands is a man whose advice is worthy of attention. Lastly, who could ever forget 'Rocinante' and his influence on the perspective of life?



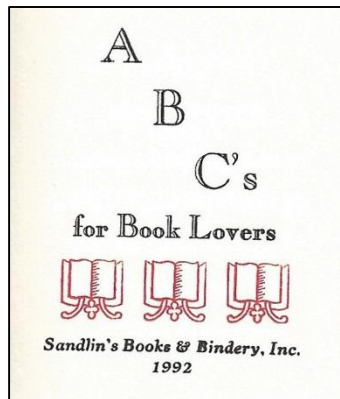
Just a few thoughts to think about. 📖

**MORE BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS,
BRADBURY 100, NUMBER 73,
'ABC's For Book Lovers', by Jeff and Linda Sandlin,
Sandlin's Books and Bindery,
Reviewed by Gail Curry:**

Over the years, I have acquired several of the books Robert Bradbury lists in his 'Catalogue of One Hundred Favorite 20th Century Miniature Books', often referred to as Bradbury 100. Probably my favorite from an historical perspective is #56 *Abraham Lincoln: Selections from His Writings* published by Achille J. St. Onge in 1950. St. Onge was an expert at incorporating into his miniature books important works for posterity. This book gives excellent insight into Lincoln's thinking through Inaugural Addresses, letters to his Generals and to the bereaved and, of course, the Gettysburg Address with words unparalleled in American history. More on this at a later time.

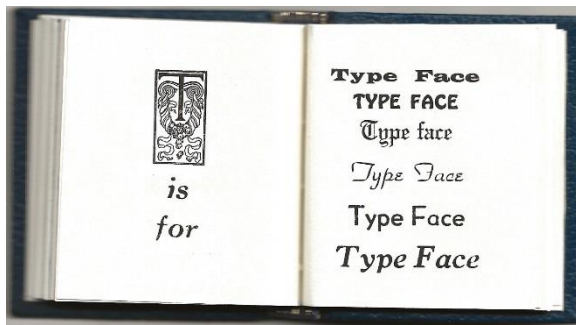
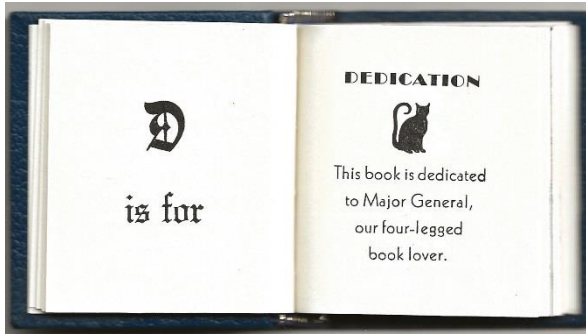


Front cover



title page

For these purposes, there is a unique book that deserves to be highlighted. It is called *ABC's for Book Lovers* by Jeff and Linda Sandlin, and is #73 in Bradbury 100. Published in Valparaiso, IN by Sandlin's Books and Bindery in 1992, it measures 2⁵/₈" x 2³/₈". It is bound in gilt navy leather boards with rounded spine and with colored inlay design (book title) on front cover. It has (56)pp. letterpress and is limited to 200 copies with hand colored illustrations. This is an alphabet book with each letter depicting a different element of book creation. As the Prologue states, the Colophon, Dedication, Numbering and Signatures are within the text, as follows:



Colophon - The book is printed on Mohawk Superfine with handset type using a 3 x 5 letter press. The edition is hand-sewn and bound in morocco-grained goat.


Dedication - This book is dedicated to Major General, our four-legged book lover.

Numbered Copy - This limited edition is No. 80 of 200 similar but not identical copies

Signatures - Book concept and illustrations Maudlia, Printing and Binding Jeff Sandlin and C. Gloyshe (handwritten signatures that are difficult to decipher).

Each of the alphabet letters is presented in a different font and appears on the page versos; the bibliographic word with examples is on the facing rectos. Among other interesting letters in this alphabet book are:

- E** Errata Slip (with sample)
- F** Foreedge (with multiple arrows pointing to the edge of the page)
- G** Gold Tooling (with example in facing page)
- H** Headband silk (with a piece of the silk thread on the page)
- I** Illumination (with a beautiful hand illuminated drawing)
- L** Linen (a linen page with the word linen written on it)
- M** Marbled paper (with two half page sample sheets of marbled paper)
- P** Paste papers (with two half page paste paper samples used to fix endpapers)
- R** Rag paper (with a sheet of 100% rag paper facing)
- T** Typeface (with six samples of typeface)
- U** Untrimmed Edge also known as Deckled Edge (narrow page with deckled edge bound in)

Bradbury 2623. \$160 value in 2002 when 'Bradbury 100' was printed. All in all, this is a unique, well designed, and executed alphabet, definitely worthy of a place in the most discriminating miniature book collection. 

Contact information: Gail Curry, E-mail: curry.gail@att.net

RESEARCH BOOKS,

Letter to the Editor:

Our readers are our greatest resource. Caroline Brandt, sent me a list of research books that were not mentioned in our last 'list' in *The Microbibliophile* Issue 223. I will share a few of these with you here and update our official 'MB' research list and publish it with the next issue. For your reading pleasure and investigations:


A Los Angeles Typewriter, by William M. Cheney, 1981

Miniature Book Collections at the Huntington Library, by Lenora Schull, 1996

Second Roster of Lilliputia Spewed Out by Robert Massmann as Ephemera Not Previously Recorded or Published Jointly with Others, by Robert Massmann, 1990

Stanley Marcus, A Life with Books, by David Farmer, 1993

Who's Who in Miniature Books, Collectors & Publishers, by Robert Hanson, 1991

The list goes on and more titles will be added and published in the next 'MB'. Thank you, Caroline. 

A MYSTERY BOOK, What Do You Know About This Book?:

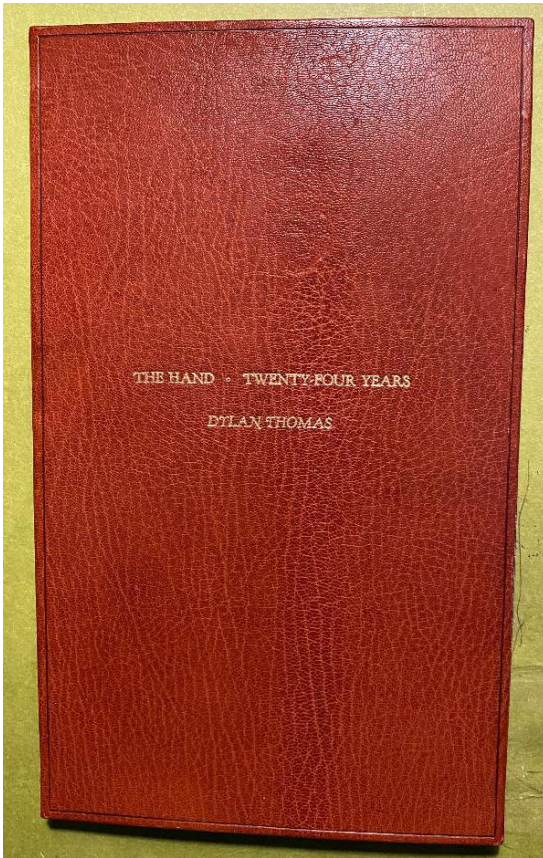
Sometimes we come across a book that may have been on the back of a bookshelf or an unsorted box and when we look at it more than a few questions may come to mind:

When did I acquire this book?

What is the story behind this book?

Who is this author or what do we know about this publisher?

So this is the case with the book that I present to you today.



There are two miniature books inside of the presentation case. .

The case is bound in a fine red leather with the titles of the books; *The Hand*, and *Twenty-Four Years* gold stamped on the front cover along with the author's name 'Dylan Thomas'.

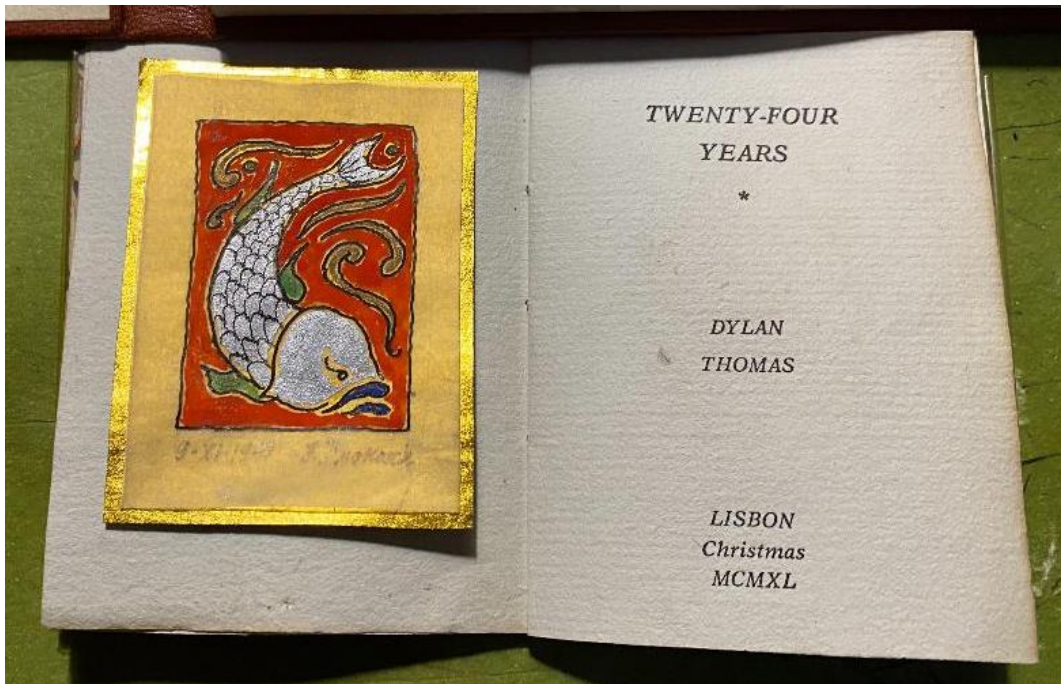
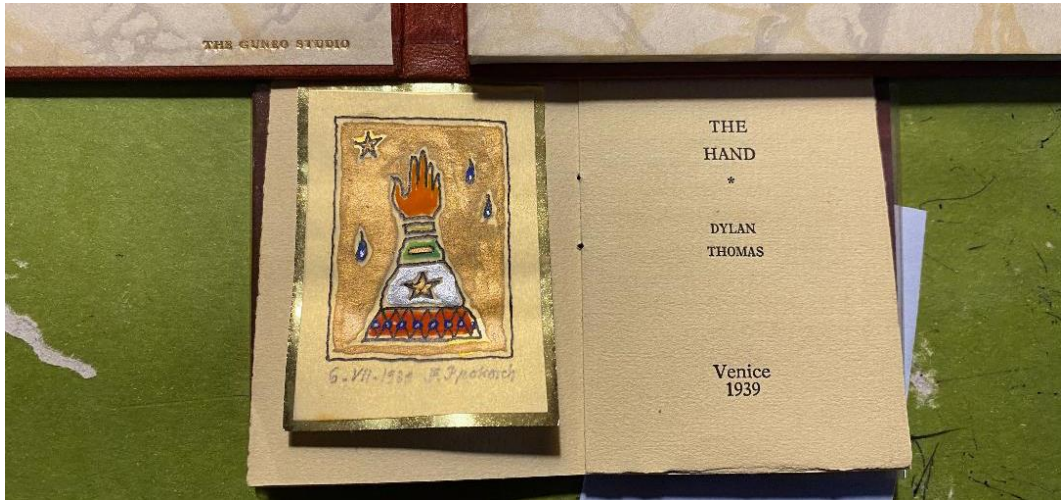
The size of the presentation binder is 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide

The inside of the presentation case presentation case is gold stamped with the publisher's name, 'Cuneo Studio'. There is also the bookplate of J. O. Edwards.



The first book (top position) is titled *Twenty Four Years*, 1/10 copies, it is printed on Arches paper, 3 x 2¹/₂", 5 pages.

The second book is titled, *The Hand*, 1/9 copies, it is printed on old Castilian paper, 3 x 2¹/₂", 5 pages. .



Some additional information:

In 1907, John F. Cuneo (1884-1977) left Yale University to start a bookbinding

business in Chicago – the world’s publishing capital. Cuneo took out a \$10,000 loan from his father, a successful produce merchant named Frank Cuneo, to start his bindery. True to Cuneo’s origins, the company opened a world-class fine bindery in April of 1926. Cuneo imported award-winning bookbinders such as Leonard Mounteney, who was a master binder with the Royal Bookbinder in London, and George Bear whose patrons included Popes Pius XII and John XXIII, Queen Juliana of Netherlands and President Auriol of France. Books produced by the Cuneo Fine Bindery Studio won many awards and were exhibited at the Art Institute of Chicago and the John Crerar Library, (Chicago), website: <https://www.lib.uchicago.edu/crerar/>

The Cuneo Press went the way of many large Chicago manufacturers, and closed its Chicago plant in 1977 due to the high cost of operations. In December 1977, the Cuneo Printing Company donated materials from the Cuneo Fine Binding Studio to Northwestern University Library, they have since gone out of business.

What can you share about this set of miniature books? Please contact the editor, Jim Brogan. The world of miniature books, priceless. 📖

GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:

The next issue, Number 3, will be available hopefully by the first week of May, As the saying goes, ‘April showers bring May flowers’ and I hope a story from you.

- Nina Mazzo, more news and her insights into the ‘Miniature Book News’
- *Wood and Garden: Volume II*, by G. Jekyll, published by Wild Onion Press
- *Rip Van Winkle* by Washington Irving, published by Plum Park Press
- Hopefully a copy of the new book from Cyclone Press; *Aldus Manutius*
- Possibly something new and exciting from Bo Press?
- Another ‘Bradbury 100’ ‘Show and Tell’
- In addition, and most importantly, hopefully a story or article written by you!

Please keep us posted on what is happening at your press, what you are reading, your discoveries, or about your collection. Anticipation and searching is the joy of collecting. We all enjoy the journey; the details, the stories, the great finds, the minutia, the marginalia – oh! The joy of it all. Step up to the podium, we are all happy to listen. 📖

THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS,

Number 6, December 1966 and Number 7, March, 1967,

By Nina Mazzo:

Editor's Note: 'The Miniature Book News' was an early publication [initial issue September 1965] that was edited and published by Julian I. Edison, beginning in 1965, consolidated into the MBS Newsletter and continued thru 2017. Time to revisit, learn, share, enjoy, and reflect, for sure. Thank you Nina for your continuing contribution to our journal.

In Issue #6

Alfred Mills was an English wood-engraver who lived from 1776 to 1833 and designed small children's instruction books. The series that Julian Edison took a closer look at were those that appeared in London from 1807-1824. Ten books with the same format and design – approximately 2 ½ by 2 ¼ inches containing around 96 pages plus many engravings. Some copies appeared in original boards and many are in red or brown leather with the short gilt title stamped on the spine. Titles include: *Portraits of the Sovereigns of England; Natural History of 48 Birds; Biography of Eminent Persons* (Benjamin Franklin was the only American 'eminent person' included; *Costumes of Different Nations; London in Miniature* and others.

Recent Publications – Julian notes a book titled *Climb the Mountains* by John Muir in 1966, published by Karen and Susan Dawson. The book measures 1 5/8" by 1 ¼", contains twelve pages and sold for \$3.00 (I found one at Abe Books for \$50). Another book mentioned is titled *A Testament of Freedom – Ideas Worth Fighting For* by Black Cat Press. Norman Forgue of Black Cat Press selected quotations "of a patriotic nature and appropriate to these trouble times".

I was intrigued with the article on the variety of bindings. Julian notes it is possible there is a wider variety within the miniature book world because the rarity, value or delicacy of some of the more exotic materials would be too impractical on a larger volume. Some of the exotic or unusual bindings include shark-skin, mother of pearl, tortoise-shell, gold filigree, polished wood, tartan silk plaid, metal embroidery and painted leathers. Interestingly, he notes that many of the almanacs and calendars were bound in unusual coverings. He included a few photos including a velvet covered calendar book of 1880; colored flowered chintz; moss agate stone held by silver frame and tooled leather. Wow! I have a question for our readers – what is the most unusual binding you have seen or

own on a miniature book cover? For me, I own a book by Peter and Donna Thomas titled *Tree* and the cover is wood with leather binding. Awesome indeed.



“MBN is nearing the two hundred mark in subscribers which include collectors both here and abroad. We recently obtained our first order from behind the Iron Curtain (Hungary).” Julian Edison begins this issue with great enthusiasm for the many subscribers and interest in miniature books. Wow – the ‘Iron Curtain’ – a term I have not heard for many years and a reminder of the historic events we all have witnessed.

The following are a few highlights from this issue:

Wooden bindings – David Bryce created some miniature books using polished wooden boards with various scenes lithographed on the front covers. They were published in Glasgow around 1885. Books within this type

of binding include - *The Lady of the Lake* and *Witty, Humorous, Merry Thoughts, Native Songs* and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

Pairault’s Collection – Between 1895 and 1898 this Paris firm produced 20 volumes of children’s stories and fables by French authors called the Collection Minuscule. An original miniature book house was built to house ten of the volumes and it was built in the Louis XV style with a glass door and shelf covered with silk brocade needlework.

Tiffany &Co. produced a miniature red book titled *Serments D’Amour* with a fourteen-karat gold case for \$25. It reads ‘I love you’ in nine languages.

Recent publications he reviews include: *The Autobiography of Robert Hutchings Goddard, Father of the Space Age* by Achille J. St. Onge; *Roma Minima*, produced by Editalia – a five volume set published in Rome and illustrated with Roman architectural landmarks.

A book titled *Miniatur Exlibris* by Abraham Horodisch has been published in Amsterdam and measure 2 7/16 by 2 ¼ inches. Text is in German with summary in English. The

subject is miniature bookplates. Julian included some photos of miniature bookplates and notes that they can be an art form unto themselves. He notes that Percy Spielmann had two sizes of the same plate. Ruth Adomeit and Ray A. Smith used three different sizes and W. Macey Stone used two different plates for his library. Julian Edison adds that his personal plate contains an arch, which is a replica of the arch completed on the St. Louis riverfront.

I have been giving some thought to creating a personal bookplate – it must contain a cup of coffee with a book and my tagline – ‘Espresso Yourself’.

“MICROBLIOPHILES, ONWARD!”

Always a joy. 📖

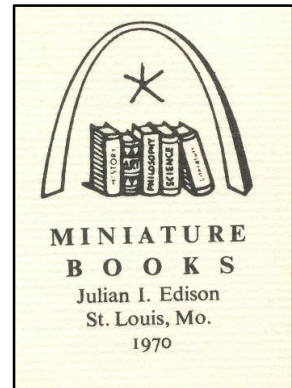
Contact information: Nina Mazzo 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648,
E-mail: ninamazzo@me.com

YOU ASKED FOR IT, MORE BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS, Miniature Books, By Julian I. Edison:

Julian was one of the leading miniature book collectors in the world. He was the founder and editor of the *Miniature Book News*, a periodical that he initiated in 1965, and was later published as part of the *Miniature Book Society Newsletter*.

Julian published a book titled, *Miniature Books* in 1970. The volume is bound in a fine grade of maroon leather with the title gold stamped on the spine and includes an image of the St. Louis Arch on the cover. The same image of the arch is provided as a frontispiece. The book measures 2⁵/₈" x 2¹/₈" and the edges are gilded. *Miniature Books* was designed by Jack R. Levien, Enkhuisen, Holland and it was printed by Koninklijke Drukkerij Van De Garde, Zaltbommel, Holland.

Miniature Books is an interesting overview research book which is divided into several important areas such as Italian Manuscripts, miniature bibles, thumb bibles, books with elaborate bindings, almanacs, dictionaries, books with unusual bindings, miniature classics, and ultra-miniatures.



There are 55 numbered pages as well as several fine illustrations. It was published in an edition of 100 copies. From a provenance perspective, the bookplate in the review copy indicates that it was once part of the K. Levitan collection.

A fine item for the bookshelf of any bibliophile. 📖

Editor's Note: if you wish to learn a bit more about Julian Edison, you can certainly visit the following websites at the Washington University in St. Louis:

<https://library.wustl.edu/honoring-julian-edison/> <https://library.wustl.edu/>

A NEW MINIATURE BOOK, River D, Published by Jill Timm:



River D is the shortest river in the world. OK, there is a river in Montana that also claims to be the shortest. But the Guinness Worlds Records says it doesn't beat River D! As you go through the book page by page, each with full-spreads following the river, you will view the complete river from the outlet of Devils Lake to the end as it flows into the Pacific Ocean. I also wanted to show some details of the river without breaking the image flow of the full-page photos. I did this by creating little advent type windows that open up to reveal details and close up images of river life. The book is 2.67" x 2.87", with a hard cover, 14 pages with 7 windows. Edition of 32 (there are only 8 left).

Check out all the books, mysticalplaces.com, you just might find a treasure for your book collection!! 📖

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED AND INTERESTING BOOK STUFF:

FBS NEWSLETTER... Florida Bibliophile Society... online newsletter highlights the current and planned activities of the organization. The current issue for February 2021 contains two articles that caught my eye; the first titled 'Romance of the Paper', paper engineering at its best. The second 'Collecting Inaugural Poems', it also includes a hot link to the priceless video of Robert Frost reciting his poem at the 1961 inauguration of John F. Kennedy. As usual, there is more good reading with the 'Books In Brief' review section. Thirty-two pages of great reading and bookish information.

Website: <http://www.floridabibliophilesociety.org/>

ABAA NEWSLETTER... The newsletter is electronically distributed by the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America, all sorts of great information. There are many direct links (more than 50) to various book related articles as well as the details about the awarding of the Third Annual California Young Book Collector's Prize'.

Website <https://www.abaa.org>

BOOK CLUB OF DETROIT... Newsletter, 8¹/₂" x 11", *Printed and Bound, the* October 2019 issue is available online. The regular operations of the BCOD have been interrupted by the pandemic, keep watching for a 'restart'.

Website: <http://www.bookclubofdetroit.org/newsletter/>

BOOK SOURCE MAGAZINE... a web based publication that provides a lot of information in an easy to read format. Book fairs, auctions, special comments on events. All sorts of interesting stuff. The ongoing feature, 'Biblo Paridiso (24/7/365)', provides links to a long list of booksellers, certainly things and places that you may not come across in a regular internet search.

Website: <https://www.booksourcemagazine.com/>

FINE BOOKS AND COLLECTIONS MAGAZINE... Winter 2021 issue, great source of information about the book world. Included in this issue is an interesting article by Joel Silver and another by Nick Basbanes. The online BLOG provided via the website is another great source for information discovery and retrieval enjoyment, how about a rare set of Victorian Christmas books auctioned for \$5,750.

Rebecca Barry, Editor, rebecca@finebooksmagazine.com,

Website: <https://www.finebooksmagazine.com>

ABEBOOKS.COM... Has an interesting selection of book related articles in digital format.

Website: <https://www.abebooks.com/books>

VIALIBRI.NET...This is the 'search engine of search engines, 'the world's largest for old, rare, and out of print books. There is a special new update notice in their pages, <https://www.vialibri.net/content/search-help> pretty interesting format for sure.
Website: <https://www.vilibri.net>

TIDBITS:

There is a miniature book seller on Esty based in Chicago called Miniature Books USA. It is an interesting site with a variety of offerings.

Website: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/MiniatureBooksUSA>

A blog in Publisher Weekly written by Elizabeth Bluemle that talks about miniature books and mentions the Microbib and MBS. It was written under the blog "Shelf Talk", titled "The Magic of Miniature Books" and published Sept. 3, 2019

Website: <http://blogs.publishersweekly.com/blogs/shelftalker/?p=30788>

The British newspaper, "The Guardian", May 12, 2020 asked the nation's children to write and produce miniature books. The idea sprung from the story of the miniature books by the Bronte children had made during their youth.

Website: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/may/12/british-library-asks-nations-children-to-write-miniature-books-in-lockdown>

Life in the world of books is always a journey with many roads to travel; twists and turns, and rewards at every intersection. 📖

Old Farmhouse Books – SALE! Offering miniature books and related ephemera. Hundreds of titles from several prominent and obscure miniature book publishers are being offered on sale now. All books offered include free domestic shipping. Have you been searching for a specific title, author, or publisher? Just ask, I may have it among the many boxes of books. Email Sherry: oldfarmhouse1840@gmail.com Thank you. 📖



advertisement 📖



CATALOGUES RECEIVED:

Karen Nyman Miniature Books, Catalog Number 89, March 2021. Always very well done and well organized for easy viewing, 95 items, most with photo images, a large and interesting selection of antiquarian, children's, dollhouse, and rare books in an electronic PDF format catalogue. Items are marked 'sold' to keep available offerings current
Contact info: Karen Nyman, 7835 Rush Rose Drive, # 124, Carlsbad, CA 92009, telephone 760-944-3019

website: www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com, E-mail: karennyman2@gmail.com

Cider Press, Miniature books by Nina Mazzo and Ken Silverman. A color catalogue offering several new miniature book items, some related to nature photography and others 'Apple' computer related and special interest things like coins..
Contact info: Nina Mazzo, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648

www.bromer.com (a large listing of miniature books) Shannon or Phil are always ready to help you with whatever you are seeking. Take a visit to the website, you will enjoy the journey.

www.oakknoll.com (another fascinating site to visit for miniature books) 'just ask for Rob'.

www.jimreedbooks.com (Just unbelievable) 'Ask for Jim, an old time bookman and a local writer.

www.betweenthecovers.com (books and books and more books) Located in Gloucester City NJ, not far from the world headquarters of *The Microbibliophile*. Have you ever been in a warehouse with more than 140,000 books? 'Tom is the big boss.'

mysticalplaces.com/rivers.html *A true showcase for the creations of a wonderful book artist.*

Online e-catalogues are another great source of information. Check with you favorite booksellers, they may have a 'notification' page set up to send you an email when they have a special catalogue available. Catalogs and booksellers are wonderful friends and great resources. Catalogs are like dessert after dinner at Grandma's, just sneak back to the kitchen for another helping, no one will ever know. I just love them, especially the paper printed versions. 📖



TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, 'Endband, Headband, Tailband':

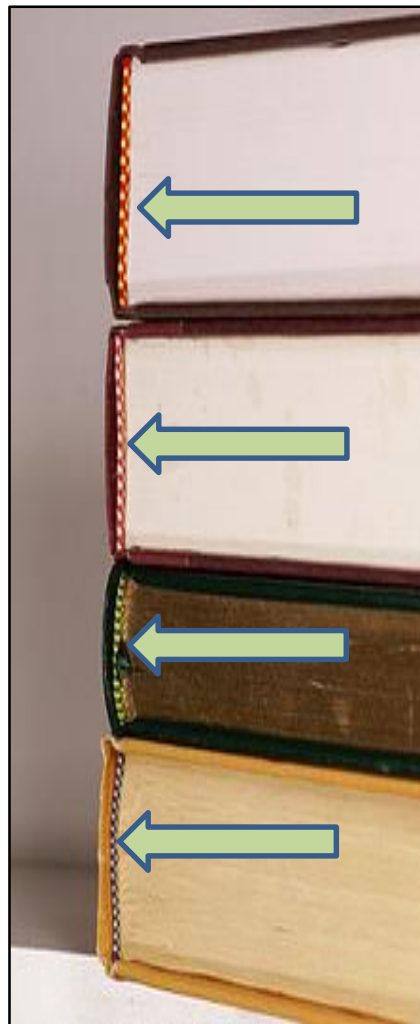
The headband is a part of a book, most often found with hardcover bindings, that consists of a small cord or strip of material affixed near the spine to provide structural reinforcement and sometimes decorative effect. An endband along the top edge of the book (as a book is standing upright) is called a headband, and one along the bottom edge is called a tailband.

The headband helps to resist the strain placed on the book when shelved upright with the spine facing outward, especially as it is common to pull a book out by hooking a finger over the top edge of the spine. Endbands were traditionally made from small pieces of vellum, catgut, or cord wrapped or braided with silk; though today they are separately manufactured ribbons. The endband is tightly sewn to the sections of the book where it can support the weight of the pages. When endbands are used for decorative purposes they may only be glued in place rather than sewn, though at a loss of reinforcing strength.

A more complete technical definition of "headband" can be found in the following reference books:

- *Encyclopedia of the Book*, by Geoffrey Ashall Glaister
- *ABC For Book Collectors*, by John Carter
- *Little Book of Book Making*, Charlotte Rivers

How about the term 'head-piece'? Your turn? 📖



THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE,

Proposed Frontispiece, Volume XL, Number 3 Issue 231:

Once again, as we do with each issue, we are offering you the opportunity to write a book tale for the next issue. Whether fact or fiction, do not be timid, be bold! Trust your inner self to spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/book memory or even a dream about tomorrow. Storytelling can be very rewarding, even magical! Especially in today's complex world. How has the pandemic affected your 'book life'? Have you discovered a lost treasure among your collection? Made some new friends even though you may be separated by miles and miles? How about revisiting a previous special book place or subject. There are a lot of options a lot of doors to open, a lot of roads to travel.

Possibly, a favorite picture or illustration will ignite your imagination or touch your spirit to share. Whether a fanciful yarn, a serious conversation about books, the wish to embark on a true-life adventure; your contribution will enhance the next issue and delight our readers, young and old.

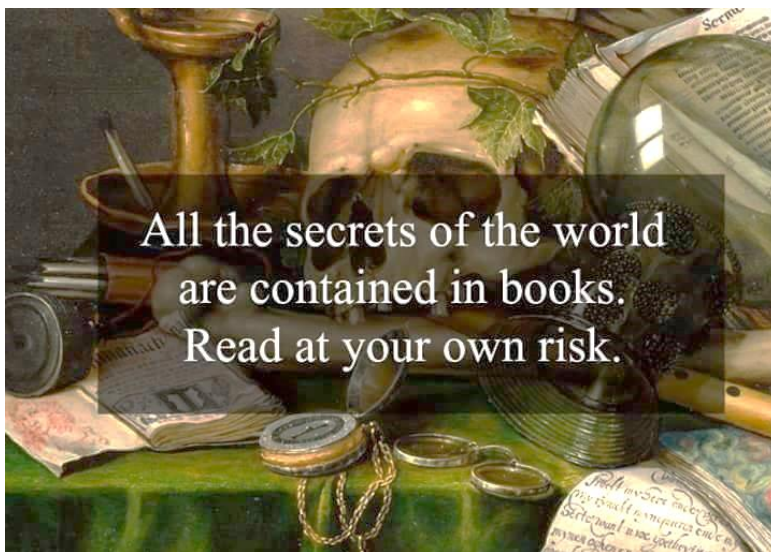
Select your own image or use the sample provided.

The image can evoke a long afternoon of stories - 'Once upon a time I walked up the dark stairway and opened the door to the attic...' (your turn).

The deadline for submitting articles for the next issue will be April 20,

2020. Electronic or paper, either way, the choice is yours.

Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com or send via snail mail to our world headquarters campus at the confluence of the North & South Branches of the Raritan River, address on rear cover. 📖



CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

Buy, Sell, or Trade:

PLEASE NOTE: This feature is changing with the next issue. Each “want ad” must be submitted for each issue and they will not be “carried over” as in the past. This change is to insure the accuracy and “freshness” of the information presented. Thank you for understanding.

As a feature for subscribers, *The Microbibliophile* offers 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.

Kathy Roberts is looking for any Shannon Mitchell miniatures. Shannon was an illuminator and calligrapher publishing as Shannon’s Miniature Manuscripts in Vancouver, Washington in the 1980’s and 1990’s

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

Todd Sommerfeld is looking for two Pairault et Cie titles, *Ali Baba*, and *La Fontaine* to complete his La Gracieuse. Contact information: E-mail: contratodd@gmail.com or 216-965-7490.


Jim Brogan is looking for a tome, *The 70th Academy Awards*, by Gloria Stuart.
Contact information: E-mail: jbrogan1@verizon.net

For Sale: Now offering some interesting Dawson Book Shop publications from the past several years. Additionally, there is a nice selection of Msgr. Francis Weber’s 100+ miniatures available with many copies signed by Weber, most letterpress printed, as low as \$10 per volume, plus postage, contact the editor for an Excel list with titles and prices.
Email: hello@themicrobibliophile.com

Free for the printing, plenty of extra room for your request! Please review your ad content and let me know about any updates that may be needed to help your searches. 📖



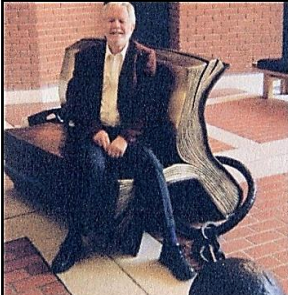
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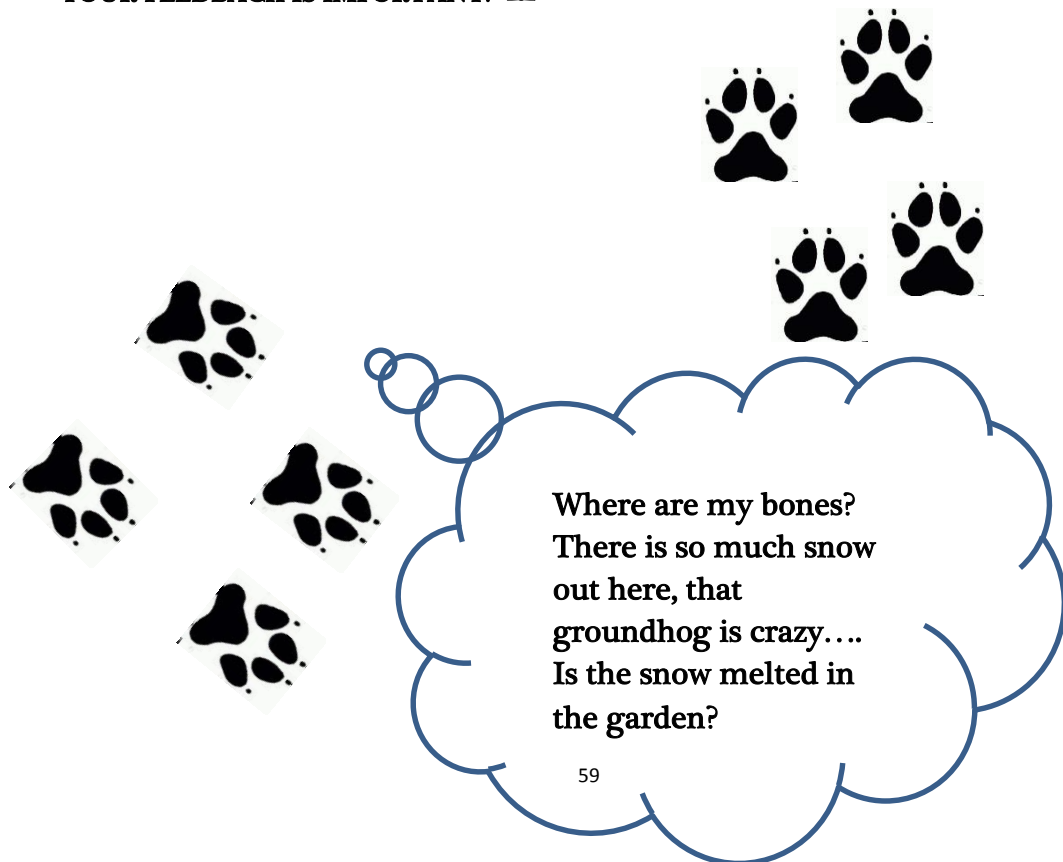
CLOSING WORDS:

It is Renewal Time for the year - 2021

We have held the price on subscrip^ts for 2021, however, if you have not mailed in your renewal, please do so as soon as possible to insure uninterrupted delivery.

We are currently proceeding with our plans for a digital publication with the digital subscription price, at about \$20 a year. and the possibly a print version increasing by an amount yet to be determined for 2022. The digital version will be distributed sole as a color PDF file. The exact amount of the price increase necessary to sustain a printed journal has yet to be determined, but will more than likely be in the area of a \$10-12 increase over the current subscriptions rates. We understand that this change to a digital format might be upsetting to some, especially out faithful and long-time subscribers, therefore we are certainly open to and welcome your suggestions and ideas to keep this important reference journal for miniature books as a printed publication.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT! 



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THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE® is a miniature book journal and welcomes 'Letters to the Editor', display and classified advertising, books for review, and news about miniature books, miniature book publishers, authors, printers, binders, related research materials, and the book arts. Please contact the editor for further information concerning acceptance criteria of submitted information that must be reviewed as being appropriate, by the editor, subject experts, and publisher prior to publication. Articles that do not carry a byline are the work of the Editor.

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(Deadline for the May-June 2021 issue is April 15, 2021)

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