

# THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE®

A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Volume XXXVIII, Number 6 Issue 222, Nov. - Dec. 2019

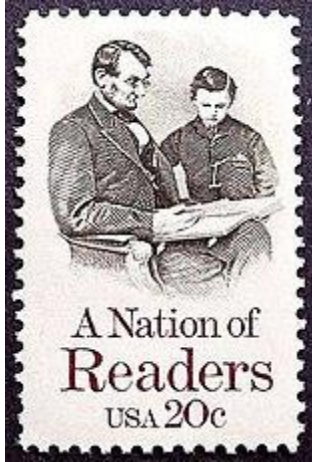


*A Year Ends and A Year Begins*

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# Converging Thoughts



There are many different 'layers of the onion' when we talk about books, postage stamps, and the art work utilized on stamps. Postage stamps and miniature books are a natural fit and stamps have been utilized in countless books as frontispiece 'tip-in' objects. Most of the time they highlight some particular facet of the book subject.

Additionally, postage stamps reflect things like historical events, famous people, and even special subjects like the value of reading as depicted on the 'Nation of Readers' stamp. The stamp was issued in 1984 as a commemorative stamp and shows a Mathew Brady

photograph of Abraham Lincoln reading to his son Tad. There is a strong message in this image not only because it is of Abraham Lincoln but because it depicts the practice of a father reading to his son. Mothers and fathers are the most important influencers and mentors for their children. To share the wonders and wisdom of reading is something that will be remembered for a lifetime.

Extending the skill of reading to the appreciation and possibly practice of making books is not too far a stretch. Outreach programs at schools and organizations, where children are exposed to the wonders of 'book making', can create important learning opportunities that spark a passion for the book arts for the student. Read a book to a child. Better yet, read a book with a child. Either way, the rewards will last a lifetime. 📖



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A Bimonthly Journal about Miniature Books and the Book Arts

Robert F. Hanson, Founder, 1977

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November, 2019

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### *The Microbibliophile*

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

Sherry Mayo, Publisher James M. Brogan, Editor

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## Greetings from the Squeaky Roll Top Desk:

**A** Belated Happy New Year to everyone, wishing you the best in health and happiness. There is always a rush of activities between Thanksgiving and New Years Day and all of a sudden the mailbox is filled with seed catalogues. I sometime wonder how I ever had time to go to work for all of those years. Retirement is such a busy job. I am certainly looking forward to the first rays of that springtime sunshine. The woodstove is always warm but it is nice to sit in the gazebo to catch up on some reading and a short nap for sure.

The current issue contains eight miniature book reviews. We also have a special review by Nina Mazzo to go along with her Miniature Book Collector series and a special article showcasing some of the entries and winners of the Miniature Book Society Book Competition for 2019. Some readers of *The Microbibliophile* are not members of the MBS and may not be aware of the competition so a recap is present in this issue.

As this issue is the closing issue for 2019, I thought that it would be interesting to include a reprint of the 'Happy New Year' words from the two previous editors. Bob Hanson's message from 1979 and a 2001 editorial written by Jon Mayo. As you will see, the years pass by and some things change but not by much.

Additionally, as always, I ask that you please consider joining the list of contributors to the 'MB' journal by sharing your book creations, your book or search adventures, your finds, or your passion for all things "bookish". Let me know what your ideas are for articles of interest to you. I always enjoy the research and the discoveries! If I have a fellow researcher or can help someone with his/her article, it is like a double layer of frosting on a birthday cake.

Subscription renewal time is here and the price remains the same as last year. Some readers have not yet renewed. If you are among those subscribers, please take a moment now to send your payment to the address on the back cover. Payment may be made via cash, check, or PayPal. Sherry and I look forward to another year of sharing the wonders of the miniature book and the many facets of the journey.


Before you settle down with this issue, let us express our thanks for the opportunity to bring *The Microbibliophile* into your home. The world is a hectic place today and we believe it is important to take time for reflection, sit down, and reflect on things that you hold special. Life is short; enjoy your friends and family and say hello to a stranger, make a new friend. Tempus fugit!

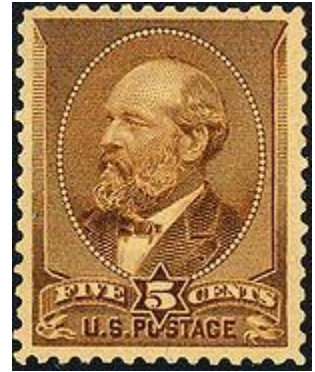


## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

“Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.”

*(Image of the 1882 issue of \$.05 stamp issued seven months after Garfield's assassination)*

James Garfield, 1831 - 1881  
Nineteenth President of the United States,  
March 1881 – September 1881 



## MINIATURE BOOK REVIEWS and CRITICISM:



*Alaskan Totems*, by Nina Mazzo and Ken Silverman, 2019, Cider Press. This is the fourth book by this creative husband and wife team of miniature book publishers, The first book, *Watercolor*, was published in 2015, (*The Microbibliophile*, May 2015) *Mandala*, published in May 2017, and *Beneath Eden*, (*The Microbibliophile*, March 2019). The books are photographic journeys full of color to dazzle your eyes.

The publisher states that *Alaskan Totems* is a collection of photographs taken by Ken that capture the color and detail of these cultural monuments. Totems are not, as commonly thought, symbols of worship, but rather a

visual illustration of important family, legend, or cultural events.

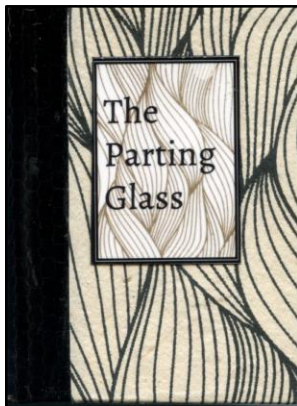
The front cover has an embroidered symbol depicting a totem image of a Thunderbird overlaying a multi-toned ocean image. The book contains eight outstanding color photos of different totems



### *Totem images*

The book is printed as an accordion format with the text and picture printed on both sides of each page. The actual printed page is  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " with the bound cover at  $3\frac{1}{8}$ ". The typeface is Calibri and the paper is a bright white #80 Art Linen. The edition is printed with twelve copies and is bound in a crisp white leatherette material that creates a very clean and professional presentation. The front and back covers are 'magnetized' and close with a gentle 'snap' thus keeping all of the folded pages aligned and in place. An excellent example of construction and presentation. Contact Nina and Ken for price, availability, and shipping details. 📖

*Contact Information, Nina Mazzo and Ken Silverman, 1655 Delta Wind Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648*



***The Parting Glass***, The miniature book is published by Pat Sweet, Bo Press Miniature Books. It contains the poem by the same name and has its roots in Scotland from the early 1600's.

The old Scottish song that has been sung around the words of the poem is tremendously sad. Therefore it is tempting believe the poem is a mourning song to be sung at a funeral or the burial of a friend. However, it is traditionally sung to a guest, 'sitting on their horse', having one last drink that is intended to 'ward off the cold and chill' of the ride home

The publisher explains that the song has a powerful sense of 'goodbye forever', and if so then the song is blithe and brave in the face of that ending. It might be a song sung by someone who does

not welcome death, but does not fear it. If the wish to be granted is to 'make a good end', then the song embodies just that.

Read the words slowly and you can feel the power of what is being sung. If you really want to experience the full emotion of the poem in song version, then spend a minute to cut and paste the link below to watch a YouTube performance of the song by the Choral Scholars of the University College, Dublin.

<https://youtu.be/eisW0skJ9fU?list=RDgYEWEn0INuU>

*Of all the money that e'er I had  
I spent it in good company  
And all the harm I've ever done  
Alas it was to none but me  
And all I've done for want of wit  
To mem'ry now I can't recall  
So fill to me the parting glass  
Good night and joy be to you all*

*So fill to me the parting glass  
And drink a health whate'er befalls  
Then gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all*

*Of all the comrades that e'er I had  
They're sorry for my going away  
And all the sweethearts that e'er I had  
They'd wish me one more day to stay  
But since it fell unto my lot  
That I should rise and you should not  
I'll gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all*

*Fill to me the parting glass  
And drink a health whate'er befalls  
Then gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all*

*So fill to me the parting glass  
And drink a health whate'er befalls  
Then gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all  
Good night and joy be to you all*

The overall size of the book is  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ", contains 82 pages with the verse printed in “black and white paired images of disregarded, tiny death: the sadness of small things, the worn out and cut down, the desiccated and the thrown away.” The book was printed on an inkjet printer utilizing Red River 30 lb. Premium Matte paper with Alegreya font. The covers are quarter – bound in black snakeskin over a sinuous black and white printed lokata paper with a title label affixed to the front cover. The endpapers include an image of a night starlit sky. The published edition includes 10 copies. Contact Pat for pricing and availability. 📖

Contact information: Pat, BoPress Miniature Books, 231 East Blaine Street, Riverside, CA 92507  
E-mail: [bopress@charter.net](mailto:bopress@charter.net) or [www.bopressminiaturebooks.com](http://www.bopressminiaturebooks.com)



*Closed book, front cover*



*Open book showing pop-up and text pages*

***Little Tree***, a poem by e. e. cummings, published as a holiday book by Patrice Miller, Aredian Press, 2019. Sometimes the smallest packages hold the most wonderful surprises.

*Little Tree* is a festive book bound with red and green Indian cotton rag paper over shaped boards that resemble a finely wrapped gift box. The green material used for the spine complements the overall theme and presentation. The book is held closed by a small horizontal ribbon band with the book title printed on the attached “medallion”.

As you slide the band off the covers and open the binding a ‘pop-up’ Christmas tree unfolds into place. The individual segments of the tree unfold to reveal that each is decorated with a fine, gold “garland”. Below the tree is a small text section that resembles a wrapped gift box ‘under the tree’. The text of the poem is short but very meaningful and carries the reader back to a different time and place:



*little tree  
little silent Christmas tree  
you are so little  
you are more like a flower*

*who found you in the green forest  
and were you very sorry to come away?  
see i will comfort you  
because you smell so sweetly*

*i will kiss your cool bark  
and hug you safe and tight  
just as your mother would,  
only don't be afraid*

*look the spangles  
that sleep all the year in a dark box  
dreaming of being taken out and allowed to shine,  
the balls the chains red and gold the fluffy threads,*

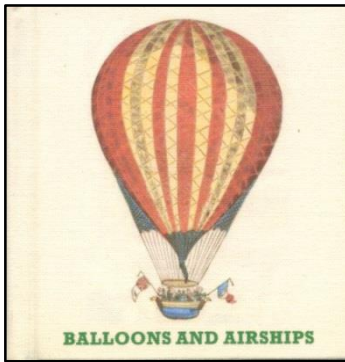
*put up your little arms  
and i'll give them all to you to hold  
every finger shall have its ring  
and there won't be a single place dark or unhappy*

*then when you're quite dressed  
you'll stand in the window for everyone to see  
and how they'll stare!  
oh but you'll be very proud*

*and my little sister and i will take hands  
and looking up at our beautiful tree  
we'll dance and sing  
"Noel Noel"*

The book was designed and bound by Patrice Miller and printed by Chris Miller. The text is printed in 6.5 pt. Verdana font on heavy bond paper. The overall size of the book is 3" x 2" and the text section is 1/2" x 1 1/2". The edition includes 10 copies. Contact Patrice for price and availability. A true gem of a book for your Christmas collection. 📖

*Contact information: Patrice Miller, 1412 San Saba Drive Dallas, TX 75218-3551  
E-mail: [p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net) or [www.aredian.co](http://www.aredian.co)*



***Balloons and Airships***, by Gertrude Bacon, [1874-1949], was a British woman who took an early interest in scientific subjects, most notably astronomy and aeronautics. At the time (1898) Gertrude was the first woman in England to make an ascent in a balloon. The first of her many achievements in the field of aeronautics.

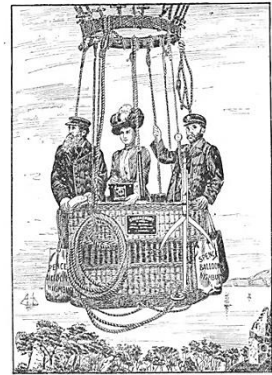
This miniature version of *Balloons and Airships* was published by Plum Park Press, in 2019. It is a slightly abridged version of the book, *Balloons, Airships, and Flying Machines*, authored by Bacon and published in 1905, by Dodd, Mead, & Co., London.

This miniature is a companion to a previous [2018] Plum Park Press publication *Ferdinand von Zeppelin and the Creation of Airships*, reviewed in *The Microbibliophile*, September 2018. The 'Creation of Airships' book covered aeronautics after the period of 1900 while the 'Balloons' volume addresses the events and activities from the first balloon adventures, 1782 - 1905

The white book-cloth cover is printed with an illustration of the great Nassau balloon of 1836. The more than 200 pages of text cover a wide diversity of relevant topics and events that mark important stepping-stones to our modern world of aviation and aeronautics. The seven chapters are The Origin of Ballooning, The Coming of the Gas Balloon, Famous Balloon Voyages of the Past, The Balloon as a Scientific Instrument, The Balloon in Warfare, The Airship, and the Conclusion.

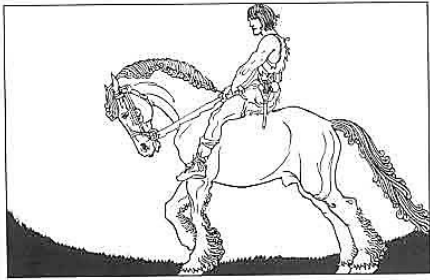
There are several illustrations that accompany the chapters. The frontispiece illustration is a depiction of a truly hair-raising balloon flight that occurred on November 15, 1899, when John Mackenzie Bacon (the author's father) and Gertrude ascended along with Stanley Spencer to observe the Leonid meteor shower from above the cloud layer. Ten hours later, they landed near Neath, South Wales, almost drifting out over the Atlantic.

The overall size of *Balloons and Airships* is 3" x 2<sup>13</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" and it is published in an edition of 20 copies. The typeface used for the text is a combination of Zurich and Rockwell printed on Navigator Platinum paper 75 g/m<sup>2</sup>. *Balloons and Airships* is both printed and bound with flawless attention to detail. It is priced at \$50. Please contact the Tony for availability and shipping considerations. 📖



*Up Up and Away!*

Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)



*Sigurd's Youth*

*The Twilight of the Gods*, by Padraic Colum, published by Plum Park Press, 2019. Padraic Colum [1881 – 1962] was an Irish poet and playwright who wrote books that brought classical literature to children. He was awarded both the Regina Medal and the Newbery Honor for his various works. In 1920, Collier Macmillan published the original, full-size edition of *The Children of Odin*.

Plum Park Press previously published the first three parts of a planned four-part set of books taken from *The Children of Odin* in miniature form. Part 1 is titled *The Dwellers in Asgard*, (reviewed; *The Microbibliophile*, Issue 215), part 2, *Odin the Wanderer*, (reviewed; *The Microbibliophile*, Issue 217), part 3, *The Witch's Heart* (reviewed; *The Microbibliophile*, Issue 220). Now Tony presents part 4, *The Twilight of the Gods* in an unabridged format with the original illustrations by Will Pogany.

An interesting publisher's is that each of the four volumes is bound in a different color leatherette material and the color scheme is carried through to the text for the illustrations and other printing features such as the prominent 'factotum' capital letters at the start of each chapter.

The book retells Norse myths that can be read and enjoyed by both children and adults. The text is complemented by several illustrations that provide visual insights for the story, its characters, and significant events as they unfold. The first chapter opens with the following statement: "In Midgard, in a northern Kingdom, a King reigned whose name was Alv; he was wise and good, and he had in his house a foster son whose name was Sigurd. Sigurd was fearless and strong; so fearless and so strong was he that he once captured a bear of the forest and drove him to the King's Hall. His mother's name was Hiordis. Once, before Sigurd was born, Alv and his father, who was King before him, went on an expedition across the sea and came into another country. While they were yet afar off they heard the din of a great battle. They came to the battlefield, but they found no living warriors on it, only heaps of slain. One warrior they marked: he was white-bearded and old and yet he seemed the noblest-looking man Alv or his father had ever looked on. His arms showed that he was a King amongst one of the bands of warriors." The adventure continues from the first paragraph to the last.

*The Twilight of the Gods* is bound in a black leatherette material and measures 2<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", it is printed with Lindisfarne Nova font, 8/11/5 pt. The typeface was inspired by the handwritten manuscript used in the Lindisfarne gospels more than 1000 years ago. The font is interesting for its historical connection and perspective, but it does take a bit

of focused attention to read. The book is printed on a special 'parchment like paper', called French Parchtone Natural, 89 g/m2 . There are 243 numbered pages; the endpapers are made of a black paper to coordinate with the cover material and the black ink of the chapter caps, page numbers, and illustrations. A very well constructed book that is comfortable to hold in one's hand and read page by page. The price is \$45. Check with Tony for availability of this volume or pricing for the complete set of four and shipping costs. 📖

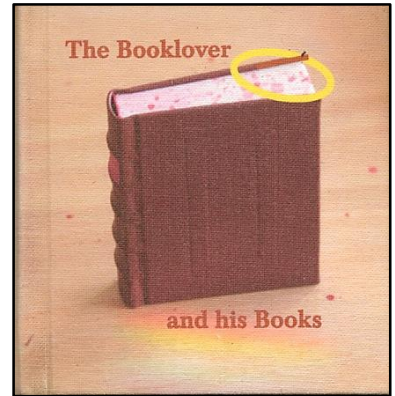
Contact information: Tony Firman, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [TonyFirman@earthlink.net](mailto:TonyFirman@earthlink.net) or [www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com](http://www.tonyfirmanbookbinding.com)

***The Booklover and his Books***, by Harry L. Koopman, [1860-1937], published by The Wild Onion Press, 2019. Koopman had a long career involving books. Beginning in 1881, he worked at the Astor Library, then held various positions until he was appointed as the Librarian of Brown University in 1893, a position that he held for 37 years.

The original 'Booklover' volume was published in 1917, for the Boston Book Company. The "Booklover" is intended as a reference book rather than something that is a 'single read'. This is confirmed by Koopman's preface, from the original publication that states: "The present volume is not for continuous reading, but rather for dipping into the chapters individually".

There is certainly a wealth of information contained between the boards of *The Booklover and his Books*. The chapter titles are:

- Chapter 1. Books and Booklovers
- Chapter 2. Fitness In Book Design
- Chapter 3. Print as an Interpreter of Meaning
- Chapter 4. Favorite Book Sizes
- Chapter 5. The Value of Reading, Individual, or Public
- Chapter 6. The Book of Today and Tomorrow
- Chapter 7. A Constructive Critic of the Book
- Chapter 8. Books as a Librarian Would Like Them
- Chapter 9. The Book Beautiful
- Chapter 10. Thick Paper and Thin
- Chapter 11. The Clothing of a Book
- Chapter 12. Great Libraries, More books
- Chapter 13. Scientific and Economic Problems to Solve

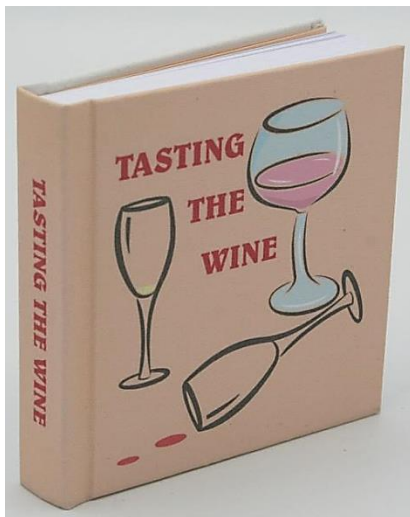


Chapter 14. Type and Eyes; the Problem  
Chapter 15. Type and Eyes: Progress  
Chapter 16. Exceptions to Legibility  
Chapter 17. Perversities of Type  
Chapter 18. A Secret of Personal Power

The editor has commented that bibliophiles who are interested in miniature books should pay particular attention to chapters 4, 5, 10, and 15. However, all of the chapters are both interesting and informative. Some chapters will provide new information while others offer a refresher information from a prior learning experience. The subjects are well presented and include 35 footnotes that document various portions of the book.

*The Booklover and his Books* is bound with a tan colored book cloth on the front cover with an imprinted illustration of a fine library volume. The title is also printed on the front cover as well as the spine. There are 217 numbered text pages printed with a Baskerville typeface on Navigator Platinum 75 g/m<sup>2</sup> paper. The book is bound with meticulous attention to detail and workmanship. Overall, the book measures 3" x 3" and is priced at \$40, shipping included. Contact Pat for availability and shipping considerations. In summary, a great “book about books”. 📖

Contact information: Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [bailgardener@gmail.com](mailto:bailgardener@gmail.com) or [www.TheWildOnionPress.com](http://www.TheWildOnionPress.com)



**Tasting the Wine**, by Patricia Caernarven-Smith, published by The Wild Onion Press, 2019. The sub-title gives a hint where the book will take the reader: ‘*A Think and Sip Book or the Budding Wine Lover*’. The Introduction further explains that this little book is not for those who are ‘au courant’ with fine wines, but “It’s for those of us who would essentially like to sink our noses into the top of a not-to-full wine glass, inhale, smile, drink, and smile even more.” Well said! Let us, as is said, “Pop the cork” and delve more into the tasting.

The chapters included discuss subjects such as: ‘What Is Wine’, ‘Pouring’, ‘It Is In A Lot of Grocery Stores’, and ‘France, Just for Fun’. *Tasting the Wine* is a wonderful resource for neophytes who would like to know more about the various aspects of wine tasting. Then, possibly, share those facets of the art by sharing an evening of tasting with family and friends. As the author states;

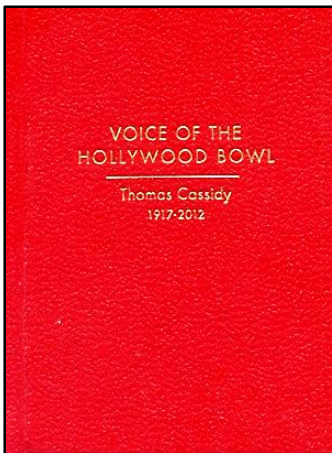
“A good, non-threatening introduction to a subject that some people want to make unnecessarily complex.”

One last feature that reflects the considerable amount of research the author compiled is the eight-page Bibliography. It provides ample information for any reader who wishes to know more about the subject. I always find these ‘research and inform’ books to be a treasure chest of information that is always helpful.

The miniature is done as an open edition, with 188 printed pages using both Bernhard Modern and Belwe bold fonts. The text is printed on Navigator Platinum 75 g/m<sup>2</sup> paper and the cover is printed with a beige tone book cloth with the title. The book measures 3" x 2" and is priced at \$40, including shipping. The construction of the book is flawless with a tight binding, clean cut pages, and as always, a professionally finished product. Contact Pat for availability and shipping considerations.

A great resource for the uninitiated to become a more informed consumer while hold the book in one hand and a refreshing glass of wine in the other. 📖

Contact information: Pat Caernarvon-Smith, 80 Farm Valley Court, Weaverville, NC 28787  
E-mail: [bailgardener@gmail.com](mailto:bailgardener@gmail.com) or [www.TheWildOnionPress.com](http://www.TheWildOnionPress.com)



**The Voice of The Hollywood Bowl**, by Francis J. Weber, published by Francis J. Weber. Thomas Cassidy [1917 – 2012] was the ‘Voice of the Hollywood Bowl’. Msgr. Weber has written and published many books on many subjects. Some titles are about a famous event such as the Goodyear Blimp or the Spruce Goose, while others have been about places or people. The *Voice of the Hollywood Bowl* follows the latter and is about a special person.

Cassidy was an active in media for a number of years and his career includes work as an actor, singer, linguist, radio announcer, and emcee. Beginning in 1943, he took a position as a radio host for the Los Angeles radio station KFAC where he continued for more than 43 years.

The Sunday night concert series from the Hollywood Bowl ran from 1944 to 1968 and Cassidy became its announcer. Of all of his roles throughout his career, Cassidy was proudest of the moniker he earned as “The Voice of the Hollywood Bowl”.

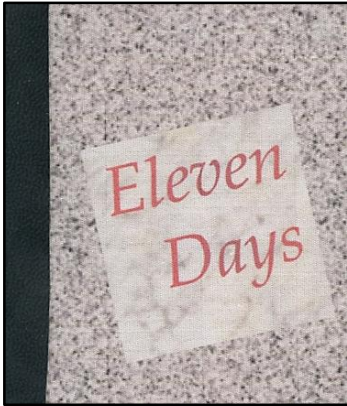
Weber’s book is letterpress printed by Norman Clayton. As is Weber’s custom, there is also a tipped-in frontispiece, this time using a photo of Thomas Cassidy. Mariana Blau

bound the book in red leatherette. The whole package is classic Weber – short, sweet, a great subject and with excellent materials and workmanship.

The miniature is printed in an edition of 100 copies, with 17 numbered pages. The book measures  $2\frac{7}{8}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{16}$ " and is priced at \$40. Contact Karen Nyman for availability. In summary, another interesting subject from 'The Old Country Priest'. 📖

Contact information: Karen Nyman, 7835 Rush Rose Drive #124, Carlsbad, CA 92009, 760-944-3019  
E-mail: [karennyman2@gmail.com](mailto:karennyman2@gmail.com) or [www.karennymanminiaturebooks.com](http://www.karennymanminiaturebooks.com)

## A SPECIAL BOOK REVIEW, *ELEVEN DAYS*, Review by Nina Masso



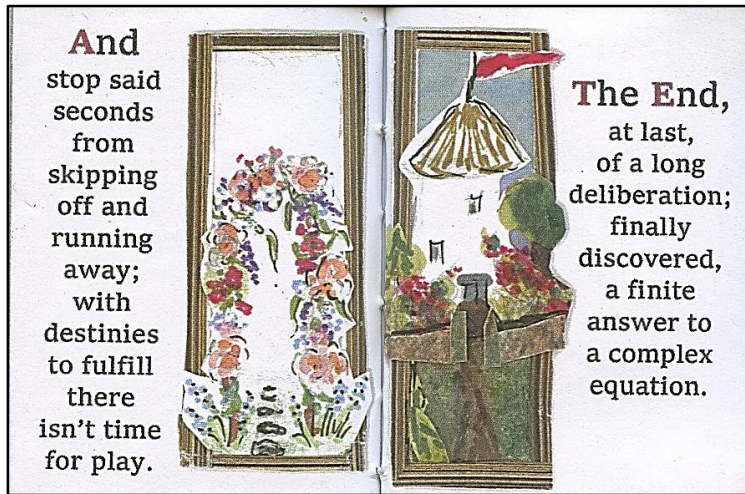
Each year I look forward to reviewing the MBS Competition and Exhibition Catalog and this year discovered Hallie Bradley's *Eleven Days*. Her illustrations are lovely and the poem clever. Hallie tells the readers that this poem concerns the eleven days removed from the Gregorian calendar in order to mathematically synchronize it with the actual year. Something stirred in my memory bank from a history class many years ago, but now I wanted to find out what was the scoop.

Today our calendar is a year based on the earth's rotation around the sun. But if you were living in England or one of our early colonies that was not the case until 1752. Researchers still must check dates carefully when working in that time frame to determine if the information was entered using the then English calendar or the new calendar we use today.

Various cultures have used the sun and moon to convey time. Even today, Chinese and Islamic calendars are based on the motion of the moon around the earth. Long story short – the Julian calendar designed by Julius Caesar simply was not working and there was regular overcompensation for the actual length of a solar year. Pope Gregory XIII, in 1582, authorized the Gregorian calendar – but that meant losing 11 days! So, between 1582 and 1752 two calendars were in use in Europe and European colonies and to complicate matters, two different starts of the year in England. The changeover

involved a series of steps between 1750 and 1752 along with the formula for calculating leap years.

If folks in our generation were worried about Y2K when the calendars were moving to the year 2000, can you imagine the panic if we decided to lose 11 days?



*Text pages illustrating original watercolor and ink artwork*

So, thank you Hallie for a delightful book and the fun of rediscovering this interesting bit of history. 📖

*Editor's Note 1: Hallie Beers Bradley's dedication of 'Eleven Days' is particularly meaningful:*

***"To my grandchildren with all my love..."***

***Within your imagination there exists no boundaries, no limits, and creativity roams free."***

*Editor's Note 2: You can visit the Miniature Book Society website for the actual competition review for 'Eleven Days' from the 2019 Competition Catalogue which discusses this entry, as well as, the other Competition entries. The annual MBS Book Competition is an outstanding venue for book publishers and artists to exhibit their work to a very wide audience of peers*

*The annual MBS Book Competition is an outstanding venue for book publishers and artists to exhibit their work at a very wide audience.*

<https://www.mbs.org/exhibition-catalogs>

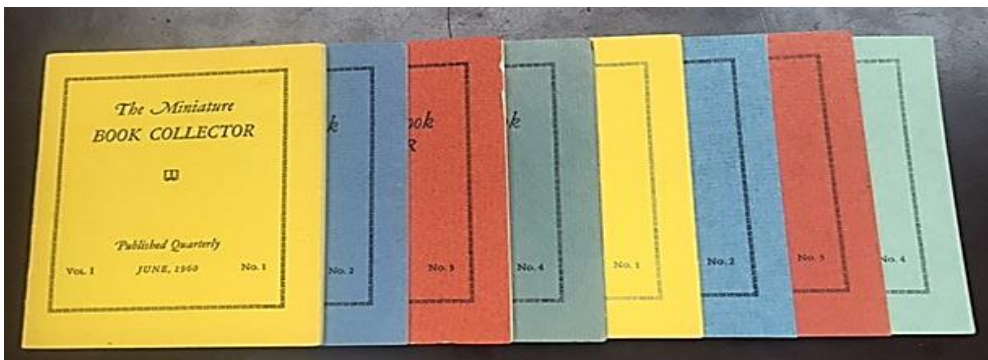


# THE MINIATURE BOOK COLLECTOR,

Volume 1, Number 4, March 1961

By Nina Mazzo:

*Editor's Note: The Miniature Book Collector was an early publication that was edited by Ruth Adomeit in partnership with Achilles J. St. Onge as publisher and printed by Frank Teagle of Lilliputter Press. It came before the internet and after the LXIVmos, and served the miniature book world as a source of information on a tremendous diversity of subjects within the world of miniature books. Many of the 20th century's prominent collectors and publishers contributed their work to the 'MBC'.*



“With this issue *The Miniature Book Collector* completes its first year. A gift copy of LIFE magazine in miniature is beneath this flap.” Achille J. St. Onge, Publisher and Ruth Adomeit, Editor. I am wondering if any of our readers might have the miniature LIFE magazine noted or any others as Ruth mentions that there were other miniature editions of LIFE printed.

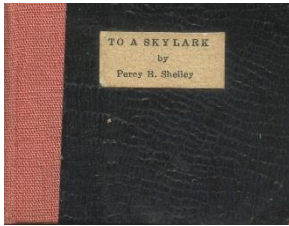
Keeping an eye out for miniature newspapers and magazines sounds ever so interesting and Ruth mentions that along the way there were miniature issues yet many were distributed as advertisements for the larger magazines. James D. Henderson wrote a book titled *Lilliputian Newspapers* and attempted to record all known miniature magazines and newspapers.

I was fascinated to read about Doris V. Welsh's decision to begin setting, printing, and then binding her own works. She describes the press she made in 1953. Her titles included: *The Mayflower Compact*, *The Mecklenburg Declaration*, *Indian and White Man*, and *America known before Columbus discovered it*. Check in Bradbury for a complete list of titles and other important information. She also notes those she made as

commissions – *Heraldry* and *Quotations*. One can hear her enthusiasm for the research along with the creation of the books. In 1957 she gave her press a name – Le Petit Oiseau Press (folks had nicknamed her “Little Birdie”).

***ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE BOOKS of Le Petit Oiseau Press***

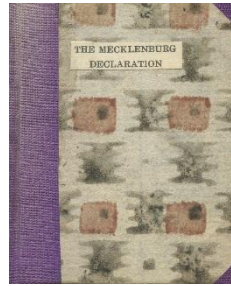
*(shown in publication order, check Bradbury for actual sizes and full names)*



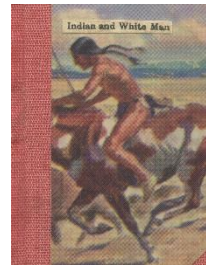
***Skylark***



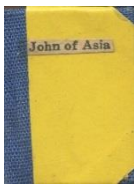
***Mayflower***



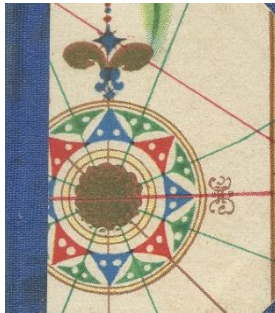
***Mecklenburg***



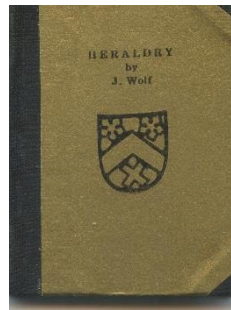
***Indian***



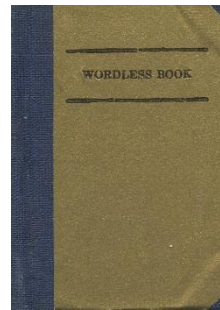
***John***



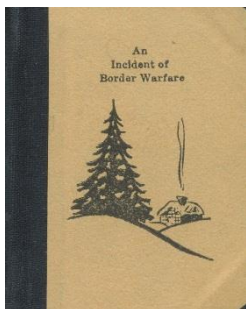
***Mayflower***



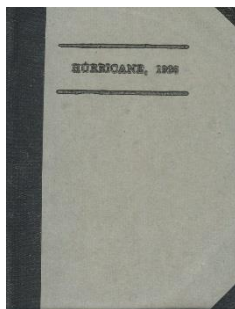
***Heraldry***



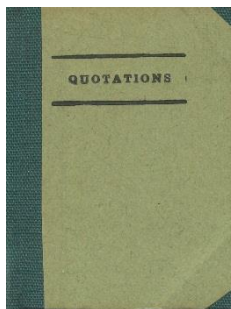
***Wordless***



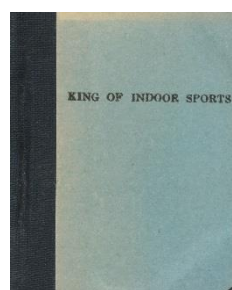
*Border*



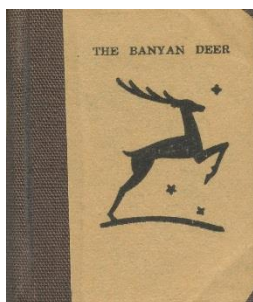
*Hurricane*



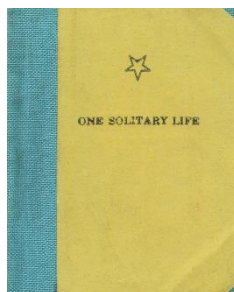
*Quotations*



*Sports*



*Banyan*



*Solitary*



*Christmas*

One of the reasons I enjoy reading and then reporting on the articles from the Miniature Book Collector is the joy of discovering potentially new areas to explore and add to my knowledge in the world of miniatures and just maybe adding one more book to my collection!

Excuse me now, as I am off to explore the Internet for 'Lilliputian Newspapers' by Mr. Henderson. 📖



*'Mr. Jefferson's Ice Cream'*  
*'The Mourning Fan'*

*'The Attic'*  
*'Sewing / Blouse'*

*'Eleven Days'*

**THE MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY,  
2019 Book Competition,  
A Glimpse at Some Outstanding Books:**

The miniature books in the above picture were all part of the 2019 competition hosted by the Miniature Book Society in 2019. The competition is sponsored each year to encourage the creation of high-quality miniature books that represent the best works of the artists. There are several points of information that you can review by visiting the MBS website at [MBS.ORG](http://MBS.ORG). This will include details on entry criteria and judging. I encourage you to visit the site to learn more about the competition. There are also links to the current year competition catalogue, as well as, many prior year catalogues with descriptions and pictures of each entry for each year. An outstanding resource and a visual treat.

***The Attic***, was written and illustrated by Mathi Page and published by Masako Ishiguro and is one of the three 'Distinguished Book Award' winners for 2019. The book contains four references in visual format about attics utilizing two pages for each, eight pages in total. To emphasize the idea of an attic, the book itself forms the roof of a small house. This can be seen in the picture of the house with the green roof.

***Mr. Jefferson's Ice Cream***, is a book that relates some interesting facts about one of our founding fathers, Thomas Jefferson. Everyone is familiar with Jefferson's love of books and the phrase 'I cannot live without books'. Another important phrase might be, 'I cannot live without ice cream'. Jefferson was the first American to write a recipe for ice cream. The book was written by Thomas Shessler and published by Mark Palkovic, Flying Pig Press, as a keepsake for the MBS 2018 Conclave.

***Eleven Days*** was written, illustrated, and published by Hallie Bradley, Infinity Press. Everyone knows that our calendar contains 365 days on most years. However, what you may not know is that the Gregorian calendar at one point in time had 376 days. So as the 'calendar experts' worked the issues of medieval years they determined that to make the math more correct eleven days had to go. Since things were not exact, even after removing the eleven days, the leap year was invented. The book is illustrated with original watercolor and ink drawing to complement the text. (*Please see Nina Masso's article in this issue for an excellent commentary on this book.*)

***The Mourning Fan*** was written and illustrated by Edward Gory, the miniature was created by Patrice Miller, Aredian Press utilizing the Gorey primary work. The miniature was authorized by the Edward Gorey Charitable Trust. The miniature contains 31 illustrations with 30 four-line stanzas of a poem. The book was created as a case cut in a quarter-circle shape and presented in a clamshell box. The printed text as well as the illustrations follows the curvature of the circle case shape. *The Morning Fan* is also one of the three 'Distinguished Book Award' winners for 2019

***Sewing / Blouse*** was written and illustrated by Mathi Page and published by Masako Ishiguro and is one of the 'Distinguished Book Award' winners for 2019. This set of books is an outstanding compilation based on "old fashion" home skills. The books include a series of cutouts and pop-ups to illustrate the processes of sewing a blouse using cloth and a paper pattern. The second book demonstrates how to clean and iron a blouse.

*Editor's Note: More complete descriptions and additional photos see the MBS.ORG site.*

These five examples are only a short purview into all twenty-three books submitted into the competition by nineteen different publishers/artists. A unique honor for the three winning books is to be included as part of the MBS Traveling Miniature Book Exhibit as it tours various venues during the year following the Conclave. After the one year of traveling, the books are then placed in the MBS Archives which are maintained by the Lilly Library, at Indiana University. As a side note, the Lilly maintains the world's largest collection of miniature books. 📖

## **GET THE INK READY, START THE PRESSES:**

The next issue Number 1 for 2020 will be available in February.

- An article about a special subject by Todd Sommerfeld
- Nina Mazzo, more news and insight from the 'Miniature Book Collector'
- *Royal English Bindings*, from Plum Park Press
- *Lovers Vows*, from Plum Park Press
- *Home Vegetable Gardening* published by Wild Onion Press
- *Coffee and Chicory* published by Wild Onion Press
- In addition and most importantly, hopefully a story or article from you!

Please keep us posted on what is happening at your press, your reading, your discoveries, or with your collection. Anticipation and searching is the joy of collecting. We all love the details. 📖

## THE LOOKING GLASS, A JOURNEY IN TIME:

*Editor's Note: Frequently we talk about things that are in our current lives as if they are new and exciting and then we realize that they are not as new as we may have originally thought. Reflecting a back always seems to happen at this time of the year, when we change the calendar and begin a new year. I thought it might be interesting to look back at some words of our former editors and revisit their thoughts on the changing of the year.*

***The Microbibliophile*, January 2001, Volume XXIV No. 6, by Jon Mayo**

“You are holding the final issue of *The Microbibliophile* which has its origins in the twentieth century. As the new century begins, look at what has happened to bookselling! Used bookstores have closed by the dozens, some forced out of business by large chain bookshops and many more by the Internet. For full size books, anyone with access to a computer can browse among millions and millions of books, compare prices, and – something which was impossible to do before – determine the real rarity of a book by the number of copies one can locate electronically. Even those who do not own a computer can often go to public libraries and reading rooms to access ‘the net.’

And there are electronic books – some can even be purchased over a telephone line, for those that do not have computers. Tiny electric-powered so-called books, formally known only in science fiction stories, are now a reality.

Some very specialized areas of bookselling remain relatively unscathed by the sudden changes of the last ten or so years. A very old, very rare book – one which is sufficiently unique – so unique that it has not appeared on the Internet – will still surface from time to time, in a dealers catalogue, or yes, on the net. Modern very limited editions, those beautifully printed, flawless publication put out by both private presses and commercial publishers in limited, numbered editions, will still be sought by collectors – the kind of books which are published in just a few hundred, or perhaps just a handful of copies. And thirdly, our own special collecting area, miniature books, is far less affected by the Internet than are the millions of full size books. To be sure, miniature books can be found on the Internet, but the net has not deprived us of the pleasure of seeking out the little books in out of the way antique shops, flea markets, and even yard sales. Still best of all, from a handful of dealers who specialize in this unique area of book collecting, by means of their catalogues, their on-line listings, and by the fact that most dealers in miniature books remember many of their customers’ collecting needs, and contact collectors regularly when special books become available.

Within the world of miniature books, there are limited editions of dozens and dozens to be sought after – some in very tiny editions – right down to one-of-a-kind treasures. There are regular editions and special editions, limited editions and unnumbered printings, plain bindings, publishers' special bindings, and designed bindings.

Here's wishing that our hobby will remain healthy in the years to come. Sizable collections will still come on the market as they did several times in 2000. EBooks should never be a threat – although the technology may eventually make it possible for someone to turn out an 'e-book' less than three inches in any dimension – we doubt that most folks would want to collect them. Specialized dealers will remember their customers, catalogs will be issued from time to time, and miniature books will still be found in out-of-the-way, unexpected places.

Here's to the health of the miniature book hobby in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *The Microbibliophile's* wish for all our readers is happiness, health, prosperity, good friends, and wonderful little minis for our collections! Happy 21<sup>st</sup> century.”


***The Microbibliophile*, January 1979, Volume III No. 6, by Robert Hanson**

“As I sit and write this message to you, it is shortly before the dawning of a new year ... 1979. I count among my blessings all of you who are my faithful readers. Some of you are long-time collectors, others are just beginning, some are enamored of the larger size miniature books, others of you like them as tiny as possible, and some of you spread the word through your publishing activities – not to get rich, but just for the sheer joy of the book, in its many facets.

Thank you so much for letting me come into your homes and hearts. We, you and I, share a commonality that surpasses all of life's woes – the love of books, both large and small. I have written this publication for two years now, and I embark on yet another year ...our third, but only with your help.

Volume III will commence with the March, 1979 issue and it will be offered at the same price as before. For a long time I pondered the possibility of raising the cost, but finally decided to try to meet the financial challenges once again. However, should you feel the urge, any time during the year, I would be grateful for any extra help (financially or otherwise) in the form of postage, books, gift subscriptions, or whatever.

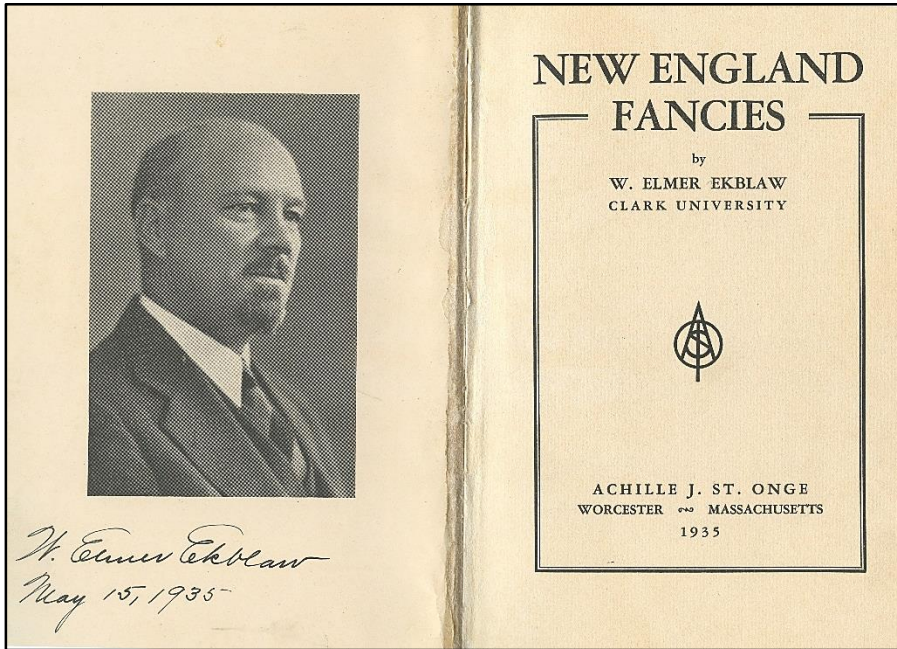
Finally, to all of you who purchased my book, *Discovering Miniature Books*, please accept my heartfelt thanks. I still have copies remaining for those of you who misplaced my advertising keepsake. My second book, *Spuds*, is in the final writing stage and should be released early in February. Now please accept my best wishes for a healthy, prosperous, and happy New Year.”

A journey through time. 



**LENGTHENING DAYS,  
NEW ENGLAND FANCIES,  
By W. Elmer Ekblaw**

*Editor's Note: The following reprint is taken from the book published by Ekblaw in 1935. The actual essays were originally written for the Worcester [Massachusetts] Telegram newspaper. The book was published and printed by Achille J. St. Onge. As we turn the calendar after the holidays and the darkness of winter begin to lessen, we are rewarded with a few extra minutes of daylight each day.*



**D**ay breaks earlier with each turn of our world, and night falls later as the hours spread sunrise and sunset further apart. Life is just so much more enriched in daylight. Dawn begins the day in early bird song, and twilight closes it with the perfume of brown maple buds. The noonday sun nears the zenith and day's broad sweep across the sky leaves no purple shadows in the north. Night dwindles and stars twinkle in brief glory.

Only the gardener and the farmer know the full joy of early dawn. They hear the matings of the meadowlarks, the waking chorus of the song sparrows. They see the dew glisten on the gray-green grass and the first beams of the sun gild the fringes of forest on the hills. They feel the poignant

peace of the new day and the ecstasy of new life and opportunities. Spring, and morning in the spring, is the countryman's glimpse of Paradise.

Twilight and eventide find favor in all men's eyes, and they are strangers to none. Dawn's benediction is only for those whom Earth is still Mother; eventide's beneficences we all share. It is easy for us to bid the sun farewell at its setting, but for most of us it is hard to greet the new day. Most of us have lost that keen acquaintance with life that only dawn can foster; that personal intimacy with living that only early morning may bestow; we sleep away the choicest hours of life, and only eventide can, in any measure, make up the loss to us. Sunset is beautiful as sunrise, but lacks its rapture.

The lengthening days guarantee us full measure of joy and satisfaction in living, if we but grasp the hour they afford. Life, at best, is all too short if we would know our world about us. Every hour teaches some new lesson, brings some new message, and grants one more boon, if we are but awake and alive to accept it. The lengthening days of spring pour full to the brim our cup of life; we drink deeply if we love life. We forget the empty vessels of winter, when sunlight, strength, and health seem quaffed away, and revel in the full chalices of golden spring with their gift of richer living.

The lengthening days bring back to us the birds; they coax the arbutus into fragrance, and the trout to the lure; they break the bonds of the earth-bound bulbs, and set the butterflies a-dancing; they melt the last snowdrifts and send winds on new errands; they open our hearts to the new year and find for us new hopes, new meanings, new purposes, new satisfactions.

The lengthening days give the lie to doubt and despair and death; they point the way to faith and friendship and fuller living. They spur us to progress and achievement; they convince us of our nobility and ultimate divinity; they reward us with the assurance of everlasting life and light. 📖

**Old Farmhouse Books** -- offering miniature books and related ephemera to the seasoned or novice collector. Hundreds of titles from several prominent and obscure miniature book publishers are available. All books offered with free domestic shipping. Do you have a want list? Have you been searching for a specific title, author, or publisher? Inquiries are always welcome to: Sherry at: [oldfarmhouse@myfairpoint.net](mailto:oldfarmhouse@myfairpoint.net). Thank you, for your interest. 📖



advertisement 📖

## **BOOKISH QUOTES:**

“The America I love still exists at the front desks of our public libraries.”

**Kurt Vonnegut**

“There is no friend as loyal as a book.”

**Ernest Hemingway**

“There are many little ways to enlarge your child’s world. Love of books is the best of all.”

**Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis**

“There is a great deal of difference between an eager man who wants to read a book and the tired man who wants a book to read.”

**Gilbert K. Chesterton**

There are perhaps no days of our childhood we lived so fully as those we spent with a favorite book.

**Marcel Proust**

The only important thing in a book is the meaning that it has for you.

**W. Somerset Maugham**

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.

**Dr. Seuss**

Some books leave us free and some books make us free.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

I cannot sleep unless I am surrounded by books.

**Jorge Luis Borges**

Words of wisdom. 📖

## CATALOGS RECEIVED:

**Karen Nyman Miniature Books**, Catalog Number 82, January 2020. Always very well done and well organized for easy viewing, 103 items with many pictures, a large and interesting selection of antiquarian, children's, and rare books in an electronic PDF format catalogue, updated as items are marked 'sold' to keep offerings current. Contact info: 7835 Rush Rose Drive, # 124, Carlsbad, CA 92009, telephone 760-944-3019 website: [www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com](http://www.KarenNymanMiniatureBooks.com), E-mail: karennyman2@gmail.com

**Between the Covers**, Catalogues 232-237 are all presented on the host website and focus on modern first editions. The specialized focus points are 'Women', 'Americana', 'African-Americana', 'WWII', and 'Literaria and Stuffiana'. Pages are presented in a PDF format so they are easy to read. The seller often sends e-catalogues, just visit the website and sign-up.

Contact info: 112 Nicholson Road, Gloucester City, NJ 08030, telephone 856-456-8008 website: <https://www.betweenthecovers.com>, E-mail: books@betweenthecovers.com

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 bite, no one will ever know. I just love them, especially the paper printed versions. 📖

## TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, 'FLIPBOOK':

The term 'flipbook' is a common term that can be applied to both miniature as well as non-miniature book sizes of that genre. The most basic definition would be a series of pictures that very gradually change from one page to the next, so that when the pages are 'quickly flipped' between the viewers finger and thumb the pictures appear to become animate by simulating motion or some other change. The most common application of the 'flipbook' format is generally produced for a child's viewing. However, the format has certainly found its way into other subject areas. Rather than actually reading a 'flipbook', the viewer would simply focus their eyes at one location on the page to see the images 'move' as the pages are 'flipped'. The viewing is certainly effected by the speed of the 'flipping'. Too fast and the images will be blurred yet too slow and the action is lost. There are various examples of flipbooks on the market, in libraries, and in many private collections.



The German word for flipbook is – Daumenkino – translated as ‘thumb book’. The oldest known documentation of the flipbook appeared in September 1868, when it was patented by John Barnes Linnett under the name kineograph ("moving picture"). His were the first form of animation to employ a linear sequence of images rather than a circular pattern as in the older phenakistoscope. The German film pioneer, Max Skladanowsky, first exhibited his photographic images in flipbook form in 1894.

Also, in 1894, Herman Casler invented a mechanized form of the flipbook called the Mutoscope. He mounted the pages on a centrally rotating cylinder rather than binding them into a book. The Mutoscope remained a popular attraction through the mid-twentieth century and most often appears as coin-operated machines in penny arcades and amusement parks. In 1897, the English filmmaker Henry William Short marketed his "Filoscope", which was a flipbook placed in a metal holder to facilitate the flipping action.

Flipbooks are relatively easy to create, especially in their most basic form. Starting with a small stack of paper or index cards (works best with a rectangle shape), clip or staple them together along the short side, then add a series of drawings or photographs with one on each right hand page. Each image must be placed slightly different or moved from the previous to create the “motion picture”. A simple start might be a series of images showing a ball rolling down a hill or a balloon flying away on a windy day. One could easily draw the images and add a story.

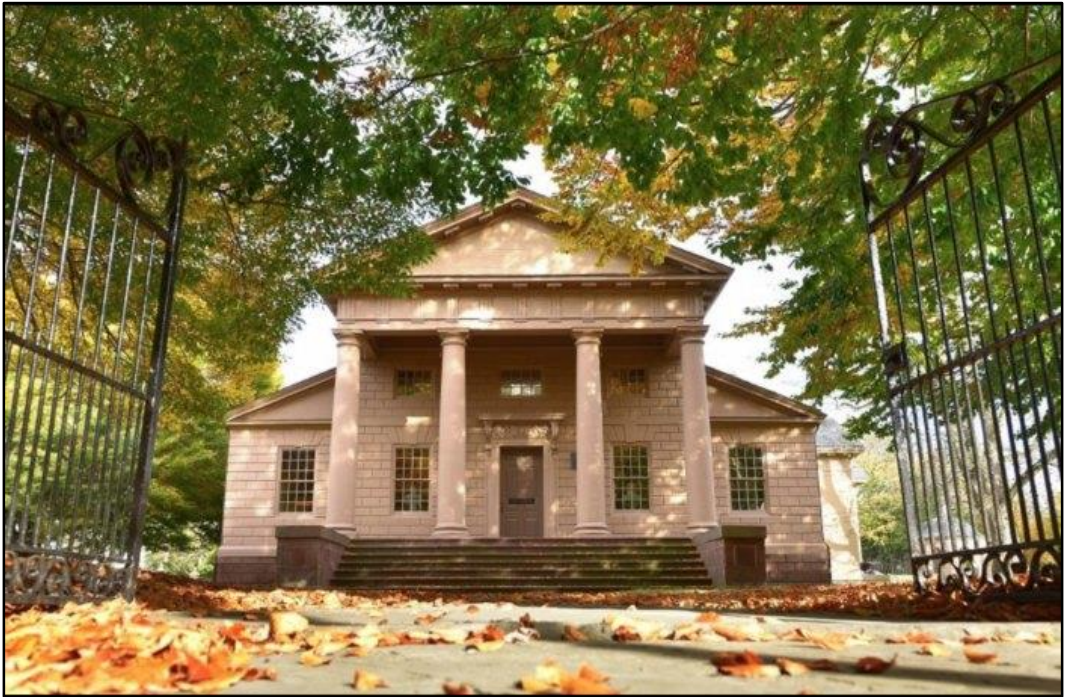


Something a bit more challenging could be taking a series of photos with waves breaking upon a rocky shore and then creating a flipbook.

You can actually purchase ‘blank flipbooks’ that are pre-bound and ready for you to add your own creative touch. Additionally, there is a large offering of specialized computer software available that will help you draw and assemble a flipbook. A great activity for a rainy day or a way to remember a special event. Give it a try. 📖

**For Sale: Now offering some interesting Dawson Book Shop publications from the past several years. Additionally, there is still a nice selection of Juniper Serra Press available (Msg. Francis Weber) 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](mailto:hello@themicrobibliophile.com)**

**ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY,  
Redwood Library and Athenaeum,  
Bucket List Places To Visit:**



*Photo image courtesy of redwoodlibrary.org*

The Redwood Library and Athenaeum is the oldest community library in America that still operates out of its original building. It has required a membership fee since its founding in 1747, and continues to be one of the most charming places to curl up with a good book in Rhode Island or for that matter, anywhere. The Company of the Redwood Library was established by Abraham Redwood and 45 fellow colonists with the goal of making written knowledge more widely available to the Newport community.

The library has about 200,000 books in its circulating collection including almost all of the original 751 titles from opening day. That original collection was purchased 'used' in London and brought to Newport. The library has a very robust special collections section that is focused on works detailing the history of Newport. Furthermore, it also has an ongoing exhibition program.

The Redwood Library has a storied past dating back to the original development of the library. The Redwood library was the first major architectural commission of Peter Harrison. His Doric design was the first such use in the New World, but has since been widely copied.



The Revolutionary War was a calamity for the Redwood Library, as it was for Newport itself. The library was used as an officer's club for the occupying army. Many of the books on the shelves disappeared with some taken by Redwood members, Newport citizens, and others by British officers. However, as early as 1806, the Library began advertising for the return of the missing books. Then in 1947, a concentrated effort was made to replace, as closely as possible, all the editions from the 'original collection'. Amazingly, the Redwood now houses approximately 92% of the volumes that were lost.

In 1966, the Redwood Library was designated a National Historic Landmark. The Library continues to serve its members and the public, providing traditional library services as well as special programs, exhibitions, and events. Membership dues and the generosity of patrons are the library's primary support. The librarian and staff strive to maintain the principles of a true athenaeum as a seat of learning and arts, fulfilling its Charter mission of "having nothing in view but the good of mankind".

IF YOU CAN BELIEVE YOUR EYES! 📖

## ***THE MICROBIBLIOPHILE,***

**Proposed Frontispiece,**

**Volume XXX, Number 1 Issue 223,**

**Write the Story for the January/February 2020 Issue:**

Once again, we are offering you the opportunity to write a tale for the next issue. Whether fact or fiction, do not be timid, be bold! Trust your inner self and spin a yarn or relate a childhood reading/book memory; storytelling can be magical! Possibly, a favorite picture or illustration fires your imagination or touches your spirit that you might be willing to share. Perhaps, you prefer a serious drama or a true-life adventure, either will enhance the next issue and delight the editor and readers. Pick an image or use the sample provided.



*Image courtesy of  
irvingamen.com*

The choice is yours and this will be a fun thing to do. The above image is about a sharing moment or at least that is what I see. Is he saying, “I told you so?” or is she asking him to read the words again? The joy of being able to read is a magical gift for children. That gift is certainly enhanced when adults share the experience with their children and then relate the stories to their daily lives.

The deadline for submitting articles for the January issue will be February 10, 2020. Electronic or paper submissions, either way, the choice is yours. Email: [hello@themicrobibliophile.com](mailto:hello@themicrobibliophile.com) or send via snail mail to address on back cover. 📖



Additional image examples for a possible Frontispiece article, essay, or story shown here. Take your pick, grab your pencil, and began the adventure!



Have Fun. 📖

## CLASSIFIED WISH LISTS,

### Buy, Sell, or Trade:

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.



Darleen Cordova is looking for (Hazeltime) Piso Pocket Book Almanac for 1918 to complete her set of the 12-month almanacs.

Contact information: E-mail: [c.cordova@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.cordova@sbcglobal.net) or 714-808-9648

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

Karen Nyman is looking for two volumes she lacks from *The Cabinet of Lilliput*, by John Harris. Here are the missing titles: *Jacob the Fisherman*; etc., and *Julia and the Dog*, etc. Contact information: E-mail: [karennnyman2@gmail.com](mailto:karennnyman2@gmail.com) or call 760-944-3019

Pat Pistner is looking for 28 Raheb books (Mudlark Miniatures and Littlest Library) published in 1976 and 1977, and only 19 published.

Contact information: E-mail: [Pistner@me.com](mailto:Pistner@me.com)

Arno Gschwendtner is looking for a French miniature book (MB) ca. 1830: Bernardin: Paul et Virginie (printed from Didot) - he wants to write an article about this book - please send pictures (and an offer) of your edition. He is also looking for 'Special Editions' of the Catharijne Press as well as Editions du Capricorne from Anick Butre (France).

Contact information: E-mail: [arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch](mailto:arno.gschwendtner@gmx.ch) or +41/78/8542422

Caroline Brandt is looking for Colgate Calendars for 1884, 1887, 1889, 1891, and 1893 Also *Red, White, and Blue* by Frank L. Armstrong. Lastly, two miniatures by W. Washburn; *Adventures of A Bottle of Pain-Killer* (1879) and *The Cat; His Immortality* (1880).


Contact information: 1500 Westbrook CT # 1109, Richmond, VA 23227

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](mailto:contratodd@gmail.com) or 216-965-7490.


Jim Brogan is looking for a tome, *The 70th Academy Awards*, by Gloria Stuart 'buy or swap', cash, check, or livestock!

Contact information: E-mail: [jbrogan1@verizon.net](mailto:jbrogan1@verizon.net)

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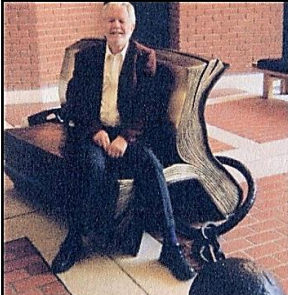
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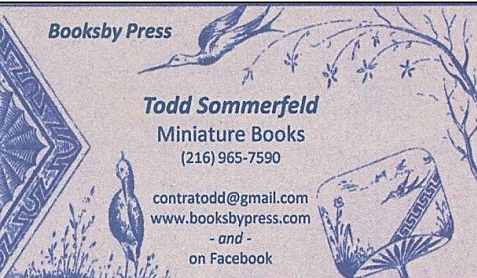
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