

MECA Miniature Enthusiasts, Craftsmen & Artisans

An Oasis for Miniaturists



Featured Artisan

Gina (Wolfie) Gagnon
Lone Wolf Miniature Creations



In 1987 I was invited to dinner at a friend's house back east and found out her husband was building a dollhouse for their granddaughter. I walked into their workshop and fell in love immediately; I couldn't get the sight of that adorable dollhouse out of my mind, so for my birthday I was presented with a dollhouse kit. It was a little house with four rooms, but to me it was a mansion! Within a week or so, it was built and decorated. I had never built a dollhouse in my life, and here I had built one by myself. I was haunting our local miniature shop by then, and discovered a whole new world. I bought books upon books of instruction, and along the way discovered dolls.

The first dolls and/or kits I saw were poorly made of white porcelain, clothing stuck straight out to the sides and little clubs for fingers. Yet in the miniature magazines there were beautiful porcelain dolls with gorgeous hands and clothing NOT sticking straight out. There were no porcelain dolls to go by except in magazines, and no porcelain doll kits I wanted to buy. One day I saw little Dawn and Princess of Power dolls and I decided I could re-dress and sell them as children's dollhouse dolls. So I bought pattern books by Susan Sirkis and began dressing these little dolls and was selling them like crazy.

In 1990 I moved to California and one of my neighbors had a kiln and was making porcelain dolls. She didn't have to drag me to the studios with her; I was in her car ready to go before she was. I learned all I could about making porcelain dolls. Every night I went to a classes. Soon I began collecting molds for mini dolls, but didn't have a kiln of my own. I would pour my dolls, clean them and take them to a studio to be fired. One day I went to a show and met the mentor of my dreams, Viola Williams. We became friends first, and then I started cleaning her greenware while learning from her as well. I subscribed to a magazine she was publishing at the time called Dolls in Miniature, which eventually became Dolls and Miniatures. What a learning experience! I met many other doll makers there. Eventually I was featured in some magazines and obtained my own kiln to start making and firing my own.

A while after that, I learned I was moving to Montana. On one of our trips there, it was decided that my business name should be changed to fit the wilderness we were moving to. One night we were traveling between Idaho and Nevada when a wolf jumped across the road in front of us. In the headlights we saw the beautiful green eyes, the sleek body, and Lone Wolf Mini Creations was born on the spot.

I now sit here in our home on the mountain, retired from the real-life working world, making my dolls, along with my own dollhouses, enjoying my forum friends, meeting up with some of them, gathering new friends and enjoying my life to the hilt.

As to my personal life, I have a wonderful helpmate named Doug, a beautiful Australian Shepherd girl named Princess, and two cats, a Bengal boy named Poetry Man (Poe), and a lovely orange/white boy named Tigger.

