

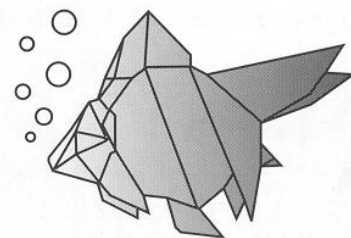
ORIGAMI MODEL INDEX- THE NEXT GENERATION

By Rob Hudson (PA)

Looking for that complex camel model that you noticed in a 1970 BOS booklet? Searching for simple hats to make for your kid's birthday party? In the near future there may be no need to hunt through shelves of books and diagrams for the answers to these questions. There may soon be a comprehensive single source of information about all published origami models available in electronic form. This year on Convention Monday, **V'Ann Cornelius** (CA) and this author held a discussion

work-group to determine a scope, direction and plan for this endeavor. The project is an expansion of V'Ann's earlier work.

In 1992, V'Ann, with the help of **David Hay** (TX) and **Mark Saliers** (CA), built what is known as the "Origami Model Index." The goal of this endeavor was to provide a categorical listing of all models printed in commercially available publications, which were carried by "The Origami Source." Later, the index was put on-line in a searchable format. Anyone with Web access could look for models, and, with the proper instruction, enter models into the system which would be immediately available for searching. The current Model



Index has 100 books and 5000 models documented.

The existing index does have its limits, however. Currently, there are many books, leaflets, pamphlets and newsletters which are not in the system. The search capability is only available to those with online access, and there are no pictures of the model available directly from the index. The newest iteration of the "Model Index" concept addresses these issues, and will become a parallel project.

This next step will be graphically-oriented and developed, at least initially, on a PC platform under Windows. The system will capture roughly the same information about the models, and will also include photographs, where available. As time goes on, the people who maintain the data will expand the system to include a comprehensive book and publications index, as well as a section for author biographies. Information about models will be copied and shared with the existing Model Index.

Such an undertaking will require lots of work. During the convention, a small team was established to begin the project. The current members include **Marc Kirschenbaum** (NY), **Faye Goldman** (PA), **Jasper Paulsen** (CA), **Howard Portugal** (PA), **Bernie Peyton** (CA), **Tom Smith** (VA), **Kim Best** (UT) and **Isaac Ogata** (Canada). In order to succeed, this venture will require much more assistance. We need people who are willing to enter data, update information, provide photos, translate content, and develop the software to access the information.

If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact the OrigamiUSA home office, or e-mail: rhudson@hotmail.com ■

Convention attendees try their luck in the novelty competition
Photo by Kay Eng

