

## *Highlights of April 30, 2004 Spring MATYCONN Meeting/Workshops*

### *MATYCONN members tour Escher gallery*



The Spring 2004 MATYCONN Meeting began with a trip to the Artists' Market in Norwalk. While this gallery contains custom frames, magnificent photography exhibits, fine crafts, books, prints, ties, and more, it is known especially for its incredible M.C. Escher collection.

**Jeffrey Price**, who has owned the gallery for nearly thirty years, continues to collect and research the

unique art of the Dutch printmaker, M.C. Escher. Escher, who died in 1972, created incredibly intricate drawings, paintings, and woodcuts in which he synthesized the fields of mathematics and art. His images are often seen on posters and tee shirts as well as in art museums. The Artists' Market has one of the few collections in the world of original Escher works of art. In fact, right after our visit, Jeff acquired the original (1938) of the 'Day and Night' woodcut that's behind his head in this photo.

"Escher's work is a peculiar combination of inspiration and analysis," says Jeff. Extremely knowledgeable about the artist, he treated MATYCONN members to an exhilarating tour of original Escher works, to explore some aspects of the artist's creativity.

Even if you cannot visit the Artist's Market in the near future, check out Jeff's website at <http://www.artistsmarket.com>.

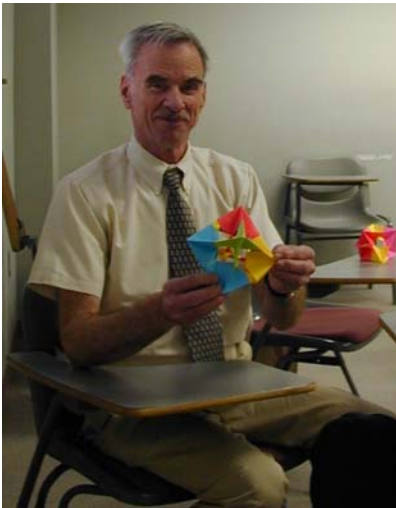
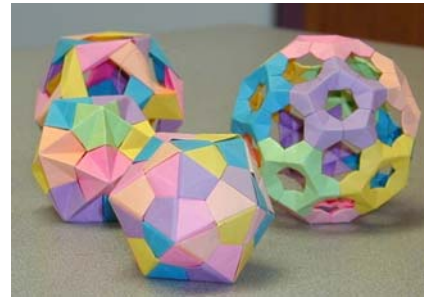


---

A special thanks to Norwalk Community College, especially Joe K., for his hard work in organizing and coordinating the day's events, for the great food, and for the many Escher gifts! A splendid day was had by all! See next page for more.

## ***MATYCONN members enthusiastic about creating origami polyhedra***

**Rona Gurkewitz**, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at Western



Connecticut State University, has had an interest in combining mathematics and origami since the early 1970's, and is a master at her craft. She is a founding member of the Friends of the Origami Center of America (now called Origami U.S.A.) and has co-authored her third book, *Modular Polyhedra Origami*, with Bennett Arnstein. In addition to teaching and chairing the Computer Science Department at WCSU, Rona



exhibits her origami, presents nationally and internationally, and publishes folds. Yet she found time on April 30, 2004, to treat MATYCONN members to a colorful and fun afternoon! While her passion for origami is evident, her PowerPoint presentation was beautifully done, and members enjoyed learning some history and mathematical background as well as viewing Rona's work, by the photos it appears that creating our own simple modular origami polyhedra from the gyroscope family was one of the highlights of the day!

## ***“A Model-Measurement Connection, Math Gets to the Bottom” — a top presentation!***

In an after-dinner presentation, **Ric Zannoni** discussed the use of manifolds in analyzing and modeling data. As a member of the Terahertz Lab, he was afforded the amazing opportunity to travel to the South Pole, where he assisted in the installation of a detector designed by Terahertz for the AST/RO Telescope. His provocative presentation and beautiful slides—showing his landing, the base where he stayed for a month, then hiking in New Zealand on the way home—concluded a wonderful day!

