

# Let's Rock and Roll!

## Framing a Collection

by Brian Barnett, CPF

**N**othing quite compares with the passion most collectors have for their particular area of interest. Regardless of the specific collectible category—baseball cards, coins, stamps, jewelry, porcelains or whatever—collectors have a need to bring their collection out of obscurity and display it for others to admire.

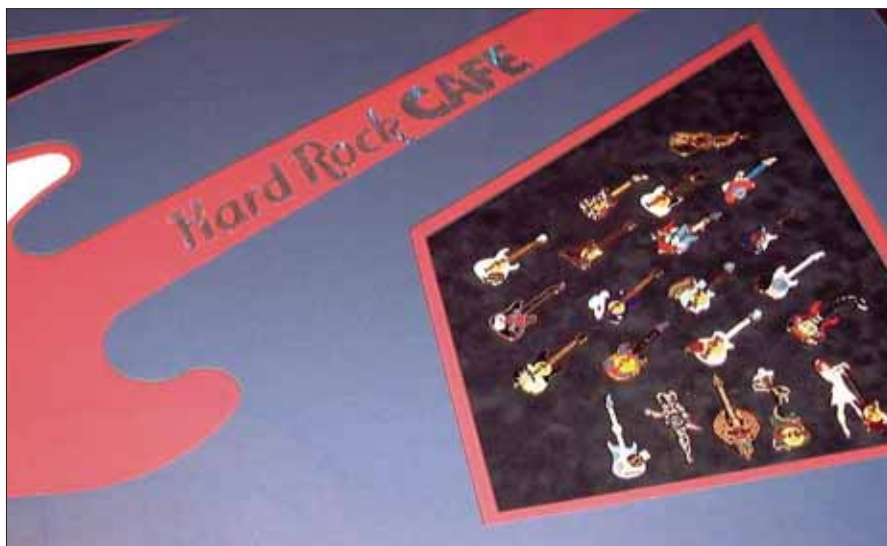
Joe Nevers of the Fletcher-Terry Company is no exception. His passion is Hard Rock Café memorabilia—merchandise that is apparently collected in a variety of forms by thousands of people worldwide.

Recently, while enjoying a well-earned “after trade show libation” (or two or three!), Joe shared his passion for collecting Hard Rock buttons and pins. It’s an activity he has pursued with fervor for many years, he explained.

My reaction was typical of most framers upon hearing that



*Incorporating the guitar shape into the frame design added eye-catching appeal. The overall size of this project measured 28"x40".*



*The double matting around the windows containing the pins and the buttons draws the viewer's eye to the collection.*

someone collects an item: Let's frame it! He jumped at this idea without hesitation. Following that, in a moment of reckless enthusiasm brought on, no doubt, by the beverage consumption, I agreed to help with designing and framing his beloved collection. Again there was no argument from friend Joe. As the Fletcher-Terry computerized matcutter is his primary professional focus, he

*Designing the layout of this collectible shadow box was an integral part of the project.*

wanted the framing job to highlight the ability of an electronic matcutter. The only real design restriction we had in place was the overall size of the framed piece.

### **The Design**

The collectibles chosen to be included in the frame consisted of 17 pins and six buttons. After sketching some ideas that had the outline of a guitar and recesses for the collection of pins and buttons, it was agreed that I would flush



*Shown here are the pins arranged as they were mounted to the suede matboard.*



*Behind the scenes: this is how the spacers were positioned.*



*The button and pins were attached through the back board; then reinforced with 810 ATG tape.*

out the design and submit a working drawing to decide upon the final design.

Once my design was accepted and we had settled on the various matboard colors and textures, the job of transferring the drawn design to the computer matcutter CAD software was begun. We had chosen gray suede matboard for the items to be mounted upon, and a blue and red matboards for a double matting effect at the front of the frame design.

What remained to be done was mount the pins and buttons on the gray suede matboard, cut the foam-board spacers, and assemble the

entire stack of mats and foam-board. One final thing to do prior to backing and closing the frame was to position the Hard Rock Café lettering in place. The lettering was self adhesive and was easily attached.

That done, and with the stack safely in the frame, the job was complete.

What started out as a simple shadow box project had turned into a relatively complicated framing and matting job. But once it was completed, Joe had his pride and joy tucked away from harm, while also being able to showcase these treasured items. ■

## Materials and equipment used in this project

- Crescent Matboard and Foam board
- Bainbridge Matboard
- Tru-View Conservation Glass
- Larson-Juhl Mission Moulding
- Fletcher F-6100 Computer Matcutter