

**CALIFORNIA here we come!**

October 10-19, 2011

## **Travel Together**

with Fellow Miniaturists to...

Attend the **2011 GOOD SAM SHOW**

Enjoy lunch with **FERD SOBOL** at the home  
of avid collector, **Susan Chusid**

Visit the home and studio of **RIK PIERCE**

Carmel's Smallsea: **A Metropolis in Miniature**

Spend a day in San Francisco  
A night at the famous Harris Ranch  
Private collections, lots of mini shopping, & more!

### Oct 10-Mon

You will want to arrange your flights to arrive at Los Angeles International Airport. The **LAX HILTON HOTEL** is just a short shuttle bus ride from the airport and our home for the first two nights of the tour. If you arrive early in the day you will have time to take the Ocean Express Trolley to Manhattan Beach and the Manhattan Village Mall, prior to our **WELCOME DINNER** at the hotel.

### Oct 11-Tue

This morning we drive to the home of **SUSAN CHUSID**, avid collector of fine treasures, many of which are miniatures. Susan has an extensive assortment of miniatures from well-known artisans, including many of Ferd Sobol's pieces.

**THE FERD SOBOL EDITIONS** have been thrilling the most distinguished of collectors with their exquisite limited edition miniature furniture, for the past quarter of a century.  
<http://www.artisticvision.com/soboleditions>

**FERD AND HIS LOVELY WIFE MILLIE**, are planning a special display of Ferd's work and Susan has extended an invitation for us to join her for lunch...what a way to start the tour!

*American Miniaturist* magazine has done a recent two-part article on The Ferd Sobol Editions. (Issues 89 and 90)

Our next visit will be to **LARRIANNE'S SMALL WONDERS**. Many of their pieces are designed and produced exclusively for Larrienne's, in addition to being the exclusive retailer for Lori Ann Potts entire line of women's and men's finery and Laurie Estes women and children's fine apparel. <http://www.larriannessmallwonders.com>

### **The Ferd Sobol Editions**



The Canopy Bed

#### Oct 12-Wed

This morning we depart Los Angeles and drive to the **HOME AND STUDIO OF RIK PIERCE** and his wife, Marcia, in Visalia.

Rik Pierce emerged as a premiere miniature artisan in 1999 when he displayed his castle "East of the Moon". Since that time he has rapidly become the leading castle and fantasy structure creator of our time. Enter the world of Rik Pierce!! <http://www.frogmorton.com/>

Coalinga is home to the **HARRIS RANCH**, located mid-way between Los Angeles and San Francisco and our home for the night. A San Joaquin Valley landmark for over half a century, this legendary Ranch proudly features the finest beef on the West coast as well as a wide variety of fruits, vegetables and nut crops from its very own 18,000 acre farm. After **DINNER AT THE RANCH RESTAURANT**, we'll enjoy a good night's sleep in the hacienda-style inn.

#### Oct 13-Thu

Following a hearty breakfast at the ranch, we depart for **SHELLIE'S MINIATURE MANIA** in San Carlos. Known as the best dollhouse and miniatures shop in the San Francisco Bay area, you'll find that owner Shellie Kazan specializes in Artisan miniatures, handmade dollhouse furniture, and handcrafted dollhouse miniatures. <http://shelliesminis.com/shop>

After **DINNER AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT**, we'll continue on to the **DOUBLE TREE SAN JOSE**, venue for the Good Sam Show and our home for four nights.

#### Oct 14-Fri

On the agenda today is "The Golden Gate" city of **SAN FRANCISCO**! Wear your most comfortable shoes and be ready to explore the sights that interest you most. Whether you'd like to stroll through the Botanical Gardens, take a boat trip to Alcatraz, or just walk along the Embarcadero and have lunch at famous Fisherman's Wharf, you're sure to enjoy a full day in this exciting city!

#### Oct 15-Sat

Just step off the hotel elevator and you'll arrive at the **36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOOD SAM SHOWCASE OF MINIATURES!** Good Sam has the distinction of having the "Largest Sales and Exhibits of Dollhouse Miniatures west of the Mississippi". You'll have the whole day to browse and shop for those perfect minis to add to your collection! Take a peek at the 2010 dealer and artisan list at <http://goodsamshowcase.miniature.net> You'll be sure to recognize many of these exhibitors!

A big thank you goes to **BARBARA JONES, CHAIRMAN OF THE GOOD SAM SHOW**, for all of her help in providing valuable information and introductions to the private collections and visits that are being offered on this tour!

#### Oct 16-Sun

**CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA**, located on the Pacific coast and situated on the Monterey Peninsula is known to most people as a town for its natural scenery and rich artistic history. But miniature enthusiasts now know it as the home to **SMALLSEA: A METROPOLIS IN MINIATURE**. Smallsea depicts the city center of a fictional city in Edwardian England circa 1900 to 1905. A population of over 1,000 miniature dolls goes about the daily routines of city life. More information about Diane and Howard Birnberg's collection can be found at <http://www.smallseamini.com/welcome>

#### Oct 17-Mon

We depart San Jose this morning for **STOCKTON** and a visit to the local miniature shop. There will be time to shop and enjoy your lunch on Stockton's Miracle Mile, before continuing on to Sacramento, home to **BARBARA TAPLIN'S ELEGANT DOLLHOUSE**. Barbara has been at the same location for 31 years and offers a wide variety of artisan dollhouse miniatures and a full line of dollhouse supplies, along with a selection of antique miniatures and treasures. <http://www.elegantdollhouse.com>

At the end of the day we'll check into the **SACRAMENTO HILTON GARDEN INN**.

#### Oct 18-Tue

Good Sam Show's Barbara Jones and Debbie Young are helping to arrange this day of **PRIVATE COLLECTIONS** in the area surrounding Sacramento. It promises to be a great day for miniature enthusiasts!

We'll enjoy a **FAREWELL DINNER** this evening, before returning to our rooms to pack for tomorrow's flights home!

#### Oct 19-Wed

There will be a morning transfer to the **SACRAMENTO AIRPORT**. It's time to go home, but what a great trip this has been! We've seen artisans and purchased minis, viewed collections and purchased minis, attended Good Sam and miniature stores and purchased *maxi*-minis...and we have great mini-memories to last a lifetime!

**Included in your tour:**

All hotels  
All group visits and activities  
All ground transportation when traveling as a group  
One-day admission to the Good Sam Show  
Luggage handling at hotels  
Full breakfast each morning  
Lunch at the home of Susan Chusid  
Four dinners, as noted in the itinerary  
Mini shopping and more!

**BOOK EARLY...this will be a small group and SPACE IS LIMITED!**

*Tour Cost:*

\$2236 per person, based on double occupancy  
\$ 527 single supplement  
Airfare is not included

**Once you have booked your tour, you will be notified when it is time to book your airfare**

If at that time you would like assistance with your air travel, please call  
Northwood Travel at 800-780-0571 or email them at [info@NorthwoodTravel.com](mailto:info@NorthwoodTravel.com)

Go to "**Sign Up Forms**" for Tour *Terms & Conditions* and *Registration Form*

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