



# Theme Luncheons



**Friday, July 24, 2026 Noon - 1:30 PM**

**TLF1 – The Secret Heiress & the Gilded Age Legacy: The Enigma of Huguette Clark**  
*by Beth Nance*      **\$137**

Join Beth Nance, Executive Director of the NC Museum of Dolls, Toys & Miniatures, for a captivating look at Huguette Clark – an incredibly wealthy yet intensely private heiress whose life spanned the opulence of the gilded Age to the modern era. Though she inherited the grand Bellos Guardo estate in Santa Barbara, CA, Huguette chose not to live there preferring seclusion elsewhere that deepened the mystery surrounding her and her \$300 million fortune. Attendees will receive a set of flower children originally commissioned during the 1940's for Huguette by renowned doll-maker Edith Van Arps. Your 1" scale gift for joining Beth has been carefully reproduced by NC miniaturist Jan Sylsberry.

**TLF2 – My Life in Miniatures**  
*by Pete Acquisto*      **\$192**

Pete will discuss his life making miniatures for the last 47 years. A question-and-answer time will follow. After the talk everyone will receive a surprise limited edition silver miniature piece in 1" scale made by Pete especially for the luncheon.

**TLF3 – Pottery, Kilns, & Glazes**  
*by Katie Vitullo*      **\$132**

Demystify clays and kilns with Katie! She'll share how she got into pottery, including some pitfalls and mayhem along the way. Each student will learn about different materials they can use to throw pottery, how to make free-form pieces, and be given useful techniques and tricks they can try at home, even if they don't have a kiln. For those who are interested in kilns, ceramics, and firing, this is a great introductory course. She'll cover the basics of working with airdry, oven-baked, and kiln-fired clay, plus glazes and temperatures. Each student will be given two finished, 1" scale souvenirs.

**TLF4 – The Happiest Tea Party on Earth**  
*by Donna Jacques & "Micro" Michaels*      **\$102**

Welcome to an immersive world where a nonsensical tea party is already in progress. Join us for wildly silly conversations, joyful exchanges of absolutely MAD items, and the wackadoodle world of Alice and the Mad Hatter as they journey through time and their Convention costumed adventures. Your gift for joining Donna & "Micro" will be 1" scale.



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**Saturday, July 25, 2026 12:15 PM - 1:45 PM**

**TLS1 – Between the Seaside and the Prairie**  
*by Ruth & Dan Stewart and Mike & Alison Thomas*     **\$207**

Join this special collaboration between Ruth & Dan Stewart of Stewart Dollhouse Creations and Mike & Alison Thomas from Seaside Miniatures. Mike & Alison are English, living in France, and they will talk about their adventures fixing up their 400-year-old French cottage, and building a workshop while traveling and selling miniatures. Ruth & Dan will talk about living in the wilds of Montana and operating a mini business from the Winterlands. Together they'll discuss the friendships & community created around the shared interest in dollhouse miniatures. Your gift for joining us will be a special unique 1/4" scale collaboration that they've created together for the luncheon.

**TLS2 – Hippies and Miniaturists: We're Not that Different!**  
*by Dia Crissey-Baum*     **\$162**

Miniaturists. Hippies. We have more in common than you might think. Join me as we learn a little bit about Hippie communes and find that we're not that different from one another. After all, we believe in sharing; we often make something out of nothing; we are familiar with the scent of glue... Shoot, some of you probably were hippies! (Not judging!) I promise it'll be fun, and there won't be a test! Turn on, tune in, eat up! You will receive a special 1/4" scale gift created by Pat Hamilton especially for joining Dia for the luncheon.

**TLS3 – “La Dolce Vita” with the Cousins**  
*by Kim Carlson & Ann McNeil, The Mini Cousins*     **\$182**

Join us for a charming luncheon as we sip, laugh and tell stories about our unforgettable trip to Italy this past summer! Hosted by cousins, Kim and Ann, this gathering celebrates friendship, family, travel and the joy of sun-drenched piazzas to late-night laughter over pasta and prosecco. Each guest will take home a signed 1/4" scale limited edition Italian inspired piece made exclusively for sharing lunch with the cousins. You won't want to miss out on this amazing souvenir and lots of fun!

**TLS4 – Tea Time at the Beach**  
*by Lynette Barker*     **\$157**

Join us for a delightful luncheon and become familiar with many techniques, tools and fun facts about working with pottery clay. You will get to see, very close up, some of the unique and elegant works by Lynette. Learn special tips about sculpting porcelain miniatures, decorating them, and firing them in a kiln. Get to know Lynette and all she puts into creating her marvelous miniatures. As a token of this special day, each guest will receive a 1" scale gift handmade by Lynette for this event.