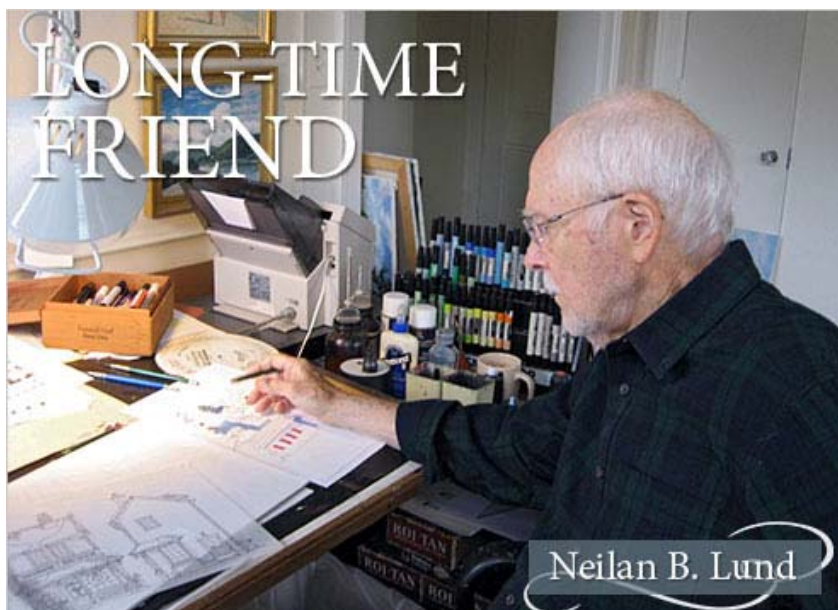




Northern Lights News

March 2009

Vol. 18 No. 2



D-56 Says Farewell to Neilan Lund

Neilan Lund, creator of the Dickens Village series passed away on February 16th.

In 1984 Mr. Lund brought a series of drawings to Department 56 based on the immortal classic, "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. These drawings inspired the Dickens Village series. Mr. Lund continued to work with Department 56, creating several other popular lines of giftware.

The D-56 family has truly lost a long time friend. We send our shared condolences to Neilan Lund's family and friends.

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Dates to Remember.....

- March 5th – D-56 "Show and Tell"
- April 2nd – Spring Display Contest
- May 6th – Service Project



March is "Show and Tell" time!

Remember the days back in school when you picked a toy or other item to take to school for "show and

tell"? We will do our own version of this during our March meeting. Simply pick out one of your favorite village pieces and bring it along. (you can bring a group or village scene as well!) We will take turns and tell the rest of our group what is special about our piece. You can tell us about how you use it in your village or how you hunted it down. Maybe the piece has some historical significance or architectural style.

Maybe the piece was a gift for a special occasion. You can even make a scene and tell a story about what is happening. Let your creativity flow! Go crazy if you want to; put on your old saddle shoes or do your hair in pigtails. (Gentlemen we would prefer no short pants!)





Happy St. Paddy's Day!

What would St. Paddy's
day be without a little Irish
wisdom and advice!

Lose an hour in the morning and you
will be looking for it all day!

The schoolhouse bell sounds bitter
in youth and sweet in old age.

Beauty won't make the kettle boil!

What I am afraid to hear I'd better say first myself.

There's no point in keeping a dog if you are going to do your own
barking!

You won't learn to swim on the kitchen floor!

If you buy what you don't need you
might have to sell what you do.

There's nothing so bad that it
couldn't be worse.

If you dig a grave for others you
may fall into it yourself.

No two people ever lit a fire without
disagreeing.

If God sends you a stony path, may
he give you strong shoes.



Spring Display Contest!



Are you tired of snow, cold and wind? Have you had enough of heavy boots, heavy coats and hats and gloves? We Minnesotans all love winter to a certain point, but let's admit that it is getting old! We will celebrate the coming of Spring during our April meeting by holding a Spring Display contest. Start thinking warm thoughts of sun, flowers, grass, and Easter. Put together a display with a spring/summer theme in mind. You can work with a partner if you like. We will have treats and prizes!





An Irish Drinking Toast or Two!

God invented whiskey so the Irish
won't rule the world!

We are all in the gutter but some of
us are looking at the stars

- Oscar Wilde

May those who love us, love us.

And those that don't love us,

May God turn their hearts,

And if He doesn't turn their hearts,

May He turn their ankles,

So we'll know them by their limping.

An Irishman is never drunk as long as he can hold onto one blade of
grass and not fall off the face of the earth.

May the devil make a ladder of your backbone

While he is picking apples in the garden of Hell.

Life alas,

Is very drear.

Up with the glass,

Down with the beer!

May Service Project!

Wednesday, May 6th

Our reservation at Feed My Starving Children has been confirmed for 8:00 - 9:30 pm in Brooklyn Park. Come and help us feed the children of the world. We have made a commitment to fill 10 places during our volunteer period. At our March meeting we will discuss the possibility of meeting for dinner or a short meeting before our project. Here is a little information on the organization. You can learn more at www.fmssc.org.



Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a non-profit Christian organization committed to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack meals designed specially for starving children, and FMSC ships the meals to more than 60 countries around the world.

From its beginnings, Feed My Starving Children has worked to develop a food mixture that would be easy and safe to transport, simple to make with only boiling water, and culturally acceptable worldwide.

With the input of scientists from major food companies in the Twin Cities area—including Cargill and General Mills—FMSC developed a formula consisting of:

- 1. Rice, the most widely accepted grain around the world.**
- 2. Extruded soy nuggets, providing maximum protein at lowest cost.**
- 3. Vitamins, minerals and a vegetarian chicken flavoring to give growing children the critical nutritional elements they need.**
- 4. Dehydrated vegetables for flavor and nutrition.**

Packaged in small pouches—each of which provides six highly nutritious meals—this easy-to-prepare food blend has won rave reviews all over the world. While the formula was designed to save the lives of severely malnourished and starving children, the ingredients also improve the health, growth and physical well-being of children who are no longer in immediate danger of starvation. A team of food scientists continues to monitor the FMSC formula to ensure that it meets nutritional needs for the world's hungry children.

A single bag of food—which provides meals for six children—costs around \$1 to produce, and 95 percent of all contributions to Feed My Starving Children goes directly toward the food program.



Member News.....

Happy Birthday!

Kathy Benson 3/25

If you know of a member who is celebrating an extra special event in their lives or could use a bit of cheering up, please let one of the officers know.



Northern Lights Treasury Report – March 09

By Tom Iacoviello

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Balance	1/1/2009			\$2,351.68
Revenue:				
Received From		Description	Amount	
Total Revenue				\$0.00
Expenses:				
Paid To	Ck No.	Description	Amount	
Robin Lee's Hallmark	3132	January gift certificate	\$25.00	
Tom Iacoviello	3133	Supplies for Roseville display	\$17.16	
NCC	3134	2009 membership fees	\$36.00	
Total Expenses				\$78.16
Balance	1/31/2009			\$2,273.52

2009 Northern Lights Officers

President / Program
Myrna Hjellming

Treasurer / Membership
Tom Iacoviello

Secretary / Newsletter
Shirley Willis
(952) 947-9041
Shirleywillis@comcast.net

NCC Representative
Tom Iacoviello
(763)519-0051
tiacoviello@yahoo.com

Internet version of the
newsletter

<http://www.minnesota56clubs.com/clubnews>

Submit articles to
Shirleywillis@comcast.net

Northern Lights Meetings
First Thursday of the
Month

Meetings start at 7:00 PM
Crystal Shopping Center
345 Willow Bend
Crystal, MN
see Robin Lee's Hallmark
for exact location



Northern Lights Events

March 5th – Regular Meeting

We will do a “D-56 Show and Tell” night. Bring in your favorite piece or a historical piece in your collection and share a story or historical facts.

April 2nd – Regular Meeting

It's time for our **Spring Display contest!** Create a small display featuring Spring pieces or a patriotic piece for the summer! Prizes will be awarded!

May 6th – Service Project

Note the change to Wednesday. We will be volunteering at the “Feed My Starving Children” site in Brooklyn Park from 8:00 -9:30. Save the date!

2009 D-56 Collectors Gatherings:

May 15-17, 2009 Montreal, Quebec

August 21-23, 2009 Region 8 Roundup
San Antonio, TX

Thanks to our Sponsor!

Robin Lee's Hallmark

Cards, Gifts, Collectibles, Home Décor, Department 56
Gold Key Dealer ~ John and Robin Prest

Crystal Shopping Center

345 Willow Bend (Bass Lake Rd & West Broadway)

Crystal, MN

(763) 566-5277



Northern Lights Collectors' Club
% Robin Lee's Hallmark
345 Willow Bend
Crystal, MN 55428 - 3969



D56 Collector Web Sites

Minnesota Clubs

<http://www.minnesota56clubs.com>

Get up-to-date information about the activities of various Minnesota D56 Clubs

Department 56

<http://www.department56.com>

Official Department 56 site with the latest D56 product information.

Department 56 Webring

<http://i.webring.com/hub?ring=dept56>

Links to web sites of collectors, retailers, and anything else related to Department 56 collecting.

National Council of 56 Clubs

<http://www.ncc56.com/>

News and information from the NCC.