



From the President

Hi, Everyone!

I want to start this month's newsletter by giving a BIG THANK YOU to the club members who came out to help update Robin Lee's displays. Thank you to Deb, Phyllis, and Darlene. A special Thank You to Tom who directed the show and thought he was in charge most of the time! You can now see the new pieces. Please do not look in the middle of the Halloween display; we did not improve the electrical situation there. The word "adapter" is still keeping me up at night! Many helping hands allowed us to get the display completed faster than I thought we would.

May is here and the gardening season has begun. I am really motivated by the display work we have been doing so I hope that I can pull myself inside enough this summer to get my Halloween display done and get a solid foundation started for the Dickens Village and North Pole. Of course, nothing can get started until I make up my mind on which of the new introductions I need to make room for.

Thank you to John, who shared the advance pictures of D-56 new villages, Disney and Historic Williamsburg. It was good to hear that there will not be many mid-year building introductions. D-56 will be introducing some accessories and some holiday gift sets. That will give me the time to catch up.

Next meeting, we will try a team village competition.
It should be challenging and fun to do and watch!

A last personal note: after the encouragement at our last meeting, I have indeed decided to keep my Christmas tree up. I like the idea that I am ahead of the game. Now if I can just get the ornaments on!

~shirl

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Dates to Remember:

June 3rd: next regular club meeting
Sept. 16-19th, 2010: Michigan Gathering
Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2011: Arizona Gathering

Save These Dates!

Saturday, June 26th

Save this date for a *club outing*. We will do some shopping and some looking and, of course, some eating. We will make a stop or two at the D-56 dealers in the area to do some shopping. Hopefully, the new introductions will be received by then and we will get to do some serious shopping. We will also make a stop at the Twin City Model Train Museum at Bandana Square. I have been told the display is really something to see. We will also find a place for a great lunch and maybe some more shopping!

Saturday, July 17th

We will hold our *annual picnic and pool party* at Dee's. We will work out the details in the next few weeks before our next meeting but do plan to bring a dish to pass! Dee has a great built in pool and a hot tub for those willing to get into their swim suits! No matter what you are up for, there will be good food and great conversation! If you would like to help organize the food or a picnic activity, let me know!

Fall Service Project

I want to thank Deb, Dee, Diane and Kathy for volunteering to organize a Fall service project for the club. If you missed last meeting, you really missed some fun. My demo of "Christmas in a Bag" was all that was needed to get the attendees thinking how to turn the simple display idea into a great service project. It was amazing to see the ideas just flowing; I wish the brainstorming sessions with my staff worked as well. Keep watching for more information from this group in the future! In the meantime save any foam board you may find at work!

Happy Birthday in June to:

Andy Griffith, June 1st

Harvey Fierstein, June 6th

Siegfried Fischbacher, June 13th

John Elway, June 28th

and Jane Sumi, June 17th

Gentle Thoughts for today:

Birds of a feather flock together—and then shit on your car.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

He who hesitates is probably right.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'Theirs...'

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their odometers.

*Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way.
I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.*

*When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth,
think of Algebra.*

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young. Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

*Lord, Keep your arm around my shoulder
and your hand over my mouth!*

Amen!

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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.