



Northern Lights News

October 2009

Vol. 18 No. 8

From the Chair:



I spent last weekend knitting almost four complete scarves. This was just the warm up for my creative juices for the October Display Contest. Now I know you're asking, just what should you do? Well, do something completely different. Autumn always conjures up images with vivid splashes of golds, oranges, reds and browns for me. I think about the scent of a burning fire, the taste of cider, warm gingerbread, fragrant soups and autumn rains.

But, that's just the beginning. Think about Halloween, or think about Christmas. Better yet, think about a house you've never done anything with or want to think about differently. We have villages full of public services, schools, stores, churches, occupations of every shape and kind. I'm thinking of maybe the North Pole Hall of Records because I work in a records office. But then there is the village hall, too. So that gives me several different villages to think about. Do I want to be silly or serious? Let your imagination be your guide.

<i>In This Issue</i>	<i>Page</i>
Officer Nominations.....	2
Fall Display Contest.....	3
The Legends of Sleepy Hollow-eeen.....	4
Member News/Treasury Report.....	6
Northern Lights Events.....	7

Dates to Remember.....

- October 1st - Display Contest!
- November 5th - Chili Feed!

And, as always, remember there is absolutely no limit as to how many houses you bring or how you display them, but do be prepared to tell us why and how you came up with your idea. I remember back in the early '90's when I first joined and was asked about my favorite piece. I was torn. I thought the CIC Chocolate Shop/Book store was great. But then there was the Physicians' building. Why would anyone call their physician T.R. McCoy, I ask you? I couldn't believe they would really mean it to be The Real McCoy. Judith Price assured us that's exactly what was meant. So, if Department 56 can have a sense of humor, so can all of us.

I'll see you all at the next meeting.

Myrna

Officer Nominations

During our October meeting we will be nominating a slate of candidates for our club officers. See the descriptions of the offices from the by-laws printed below. The term of all officers will be two years based on the updates we made to the by-laws last November. All positions are open. Step up and give some time back to the club! The election will be held during our November meeting. We could use some fresh ideas!

5. Officers.

The Club's Officers consist of a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Officers serve two-year terms. The Officers are responsible for determining the activities of the Club.

The President presides at all Club meetings. If the President is unavailable, the Treasurer, Secretary, or other appointed member presides. All contracts must be signed by the President. The President also has responsibility for setting and managing the program for the club.

The Secretary records the minutes of the Club meetings and is the custodian of all Club records, contracts, and correspondence. The Secretary is also in charge of the Newsletter.

The Treasurer is responsible for all Club finances, maintains the Club checking account, and keeps written records of all financial transactions. A written financial report is reported in the Club Newsletter. The Treasurer is also in charge of membership.

NCC Club Representative is an elected office with responsibility to act as a liaison between the club and the NCC Board/Regional Representative.

Fall Display Contest



When: October Meeting –
Thursday, 10/1/09

Theme: Anything related to
the fall season (Halloween,
Harvest, Fall Colors, Baseball
World Series, Football, etc.)

Display Categories:

Small: 1 building or less
(accessories only)

Large: 2 or more buildings

Prizes: Will be awarded based on voting by club members and
the number of displays entered into the contest.

Notes: All contest entries will be appreciated. If you don't
collect Halloween, you can create any display you'd like. Plan to
arrive at the meeting early enough to set up. Have some fun
with this!



The Legends of Sleepy Hollow-eeen



During the tour of One Village Place I was taken by the Legend of Sleepy Hollow-eeen pieces that were on display. The houses seemed to glow with an eerie orange light and I loved the detail. I decided to do some research on the story that the pieces depict. I have heard the story mentioned around Halloween time, but I don't remember ever reading it.

The story is set circa 1790 in the Dutch settlement of Tarry Town, New York, in a secluded glen called Sleepy Hollow. It tells the story of Ichabod Crane, a lean, lanky, and extremely superstitious schoolmaster from Connecticut, who competes with Abraham "Brom Bones" Van Brunt, the town rowdy, for the hand of 18-year-old Katrina Van Tassel, the daughter and sole child of a wealthy farmer, Baltus Van Tassel. As Crane leaves a party he attended at the Van Tassel home on an autumn night, he is pursued by the Headless Horseman, who is supposedly the ghost of a Hessian trooper who had his head shot off by a stray cannonball during "some nameless battle" of the American Revolutionary War, and who "rides forth to the scene of battle in nightly quest of his head". Ichabod mysteriously disappears from town, leaving Katrina to marry Brom Bones, who was "to look exceedingly knowing whenever the story of Ichabod was related". Although the nature of the Headless Horseman is left open to interpretation, the story implies that the Horseman was actually Brom Bones in disguise.

This is a great set for someone who would like to have something to display around Halloween but does not want to get started on a new village. For the rest of us who have gotten the Halloween bug this is a great vignette set. The pieces are modestly priced and each house comes with an accessory. The "Sleepy Hollow Church" comes with a spooky looking cemetery gate with tombstone. The "Sleepy Hollow School" comes with Ichabod Crane shown on his horse running at full trot! The "Witches' Hat Tavern" comes with a Sleepy Hollow village sign

complete with scarecrow. Everyone will also need the accessory set that comes with 2 spooky trees, a bridge and of course the “Headless Horsemen”!

I found some other interesting facts about Irving’s short story and its effect on American Culture.

- In 2006, a large statue depicting the Headless Horseman chasing Ichabod Crane was placed along Route 9 in Sleepy Hollow/Tarytown, New York. (Maybe this is not surprising since Halloween has gained so much popularity over the last 10 years!)
- There is a Sleepy Hollow, Illinois, named after the legendary location and many of the street names reflect characters from the tale. In addition, the image of the Headless Horseman can be found on many of the City’s landmarks and publications.
- The Ichabod Crane School District, located in Valatie, New York was named after the main character. The school’s sports teams are called the “Riders” and a silhouette of Ichabod Crane on his horse is often representative of the home team while a silhouette of the Headless Horsemen is representative of the opponent.
- Kirt Moiser, a composer from Kansas, composed a two part suite set to The Legend of Sleepy Hollow. The first movement was entitled “Ichabod’s Walk” and the second movement, “Hessian’s Ride”
- A not-for-profit organization, Historic Hudson Valley, has held since 1996 Legend Weekend at Philipsburg Manor, Sleepy Hollow, New York, featuring a rider portraying the headless Hessian, and a storyteller retelling The Legend of Sleepy Hollow as a historic celebration attended by thousands annually before Halloween.

All of this makes me wonder what lasting effect the Harry Potter series will have!





Member News.....

Happy Birthday to the following members!

Fred Pagenkopf 10/5

Nancy Rodriguez 10/26

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 – October 09				
By Tom Iacoviello				
Balance	8/1/09			\$1,822.22
Revenue:				
Received From		Description	Amount	
Total Revenue				0.00
Expenses:				
Paid To	Ck No.	Description	Amount	
Total Expenses				0.00
Balance	8/31/09			\$1,822.22

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

October 1 – Display Contest

It's time for our annual Fall Display Contest!
Bring your nominations for club officers!

November 5 – Chili Feed!

Our annual chili feed and club elections!

December 3 – Holiday Activity!

2010 D-56 Collectors Gatherings:

September 16-19, 2010 “The Seasons of
Michigan Gathering” Livonia, MI

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.