

VILLAGE ADDICTS GAZETTE

VAA Meeting Highlights
Saturday, April 4, 2009

Myrna and Bud called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Opening Remarks: Myrna and Bud thanked everyone for the great pot-luck dishes the members brought.

Bud announced that cousins and family members of Mary Ann Cossentine's husband were in the plane that crashed in Montana last week. Mary Ann and family were at the memorial services this weekend.

Membership Chair Peggy Jauregui is in treatment for her back problems and is improving, albeit slowly.

Bud announced that former member Sandra Robinson has donated her mother's D56 collection to VAA for its inventory. Sandy's mother, Mary Faubion, was a long time member of VAA, and unfortunately, has Alzheimer's and is in a care facility. VAA will be sending a floral a gift to Sandy and Mary to thank them for the very generous donation.

Treasurer's Report: Stan Higgins gave the Treasurers Report. Stan told of all expenses incurred since October 2008, along with the revenues. Thanks to the White Elephant sale in February, the club has money in the bank. Stan will provide a hard copy of the treasurer's report at the next meeting.

Dues Increase and Annual Renewal Date: Bud and Myrna discussed the proposal to change the membership renewal date from the date at the end of the month in which a member joined to an annual renewal date of May 31. A proposal was also made to change the Club's dues to a two-tiered system with dues of \$28 for an individual member and \$35 for a family membership of 2-3 members. After discussion, it was moved and seconded that the change become effective as of May 1, 2009. The motion was approved by a majority of the membership in attendance.

NCC Report: Judyth Rischall gave the NCC Report. She had NCC pins for the year 2004 and postcards available for any members who would like them. They are free to members.

Department 56 Bankruptcy: Myrna discussed the Dept 56 bankruptcy. The bankruptcy case docket showed that Dept 56 was not sold at a separate sale, but was included along with the Lenox entities in the bankruptcy sale to "New Lenox." Myrna expressed concern that Dept 56 had not been sold as a separate entity. A question was raised about the separate sale of Dept 56, and Myrna promised to research that. Although we know that the 2009 Dept 56 product was manufactured and shipped, Myrna was also concerned about future products.

October Bus Trip: Myrna and Bud asked about interest in a shopping trip in October and said they were looking at a trip to Casual Living, City Lights and Canterbury Gardens. One of the member expressed interest in adding The Old Toy Soldier's Home to the trip. Additional interest was expressed in a weekend trip to William Glen in Sacramento; Dollhouses, Trains and More in Novato; and a visit to Richard Tuck's home just north of San Francisco, or his museum, Playland-Not-At-The-Beach. Myrna will appoint someone to research the costs for each of the suggested bus trips and to present a proposal at the June meeting.

Yard Sale: Bud reported he is having a HUGE yard sale in May at his home at 5941 Melvin Ave., Tarzana. He will be holding a large section for VAA items from inventory, including items donated at the 2009 White Elephant Sale. The sale will be Friday through Sunday, May 15 -17. We will be asking for volunteers and lots of customers. Please bring friends and family to the sale.

Montreal Gathering: Claudette Fillet reported on the Montreal Gathering in May. Although she will be the only VAA member attending, she is very excited about the special tours and activities planned.

After the break, Pat Harmon demonstrated how to make the NCC Snowflake, which is a large paper snowflake made in origami style. Pat provided one kit for each table, and soon many of us were busy at work making snowflakes. Thanks to Pat for a great demonstration and for making the kits.

We finally got to play "Claus," the Bingo-like game created by Jan Lauritzen for the 2009 Holiday Party. We had a great time playing and there were lots of winners! Thanks to Jan for the very exciting and fast-paced "Claus!"

The Club sold tickets for a special Easter raffle of some very special Easter or spring themed items:
David Blair donated a spring floral display, won by Myrna;
Pat and Kimberly Harmon created and donated a great "Movie Night" basket, with a CD, popcorn, and bottles of old fashioned sodas, won by Jo Ann Inouye. Cora "rescued" a coach from the White Elephant Sale donations and Bud filled the coach with roses from his garden and arranged them beautifully, won by Barbara Reyna. Cora created an Easter Basket with lots of chocolate bunnies and eggs, a miniature pink rose bush and an adorable bunny, won by Cora; and Sandy Grindstaff created a fabulous basket with lots of Easter decorations, including beautiful porcelain bunnies and other Easter decorations, won by Claudette.

Sandy Grindstaff announced that the SOCC (formerly Radko Society) will be holding its annual Spring Swap'N'Sell at Claudette's home on Saturday, May 2. VAA members are invited. The SOCC will provide hot dogs and hamburgers. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish.

Sandy also announced that David Blair will be holding a workshop on Saturday, April 11 to show how to make an Easter floral arrangement.



4/25/2009 10:14 AM From Alita....

I went to the Enesco web page

(<http://www.enesco.com/index.jsp.vr>) and

there is a section on there that reads: Please join us in welcoming Dept. 56 to the Enesco family. Here is what their web page has and it is apparently a press release dated yesterday:

ENESCO ACQUIRES DEPARTMENT 56 FROM LENOX Itasca, Ill. - April 24, 2009 - Enesco, LLC, a global leader in the giftware and home and garden décor industries, announced today that it has completed the acquisition of the Department 56® brand and key portfolio brands from Lenox Corporation. Established in 1976, Department 56 has been a major global force in the giftware, collectibles and holiday decorating industry for more than 30 years.

The acquisition includes brands such as Villages®, Snowbabies® and Possible Dreams® as well as key D56 holiday and licensed lines. Enesco has also hired a substantial portion of Department 56's current employees, including the sales force, and acquired certain inventory and other assets of Department 56. The company intends to keep offices in both Minnesota and California.

"Department 56 is a very important and strategic addition to our family," stated Matt Bousquette, Executive Chairman of Enesco, LLC. "Department 56's stable of core brands, enormously talented pool of individuals, expansive retail footprint and reputation are much-coveted assets in the gift industry. We look forward to having other great designers and brands join the company in the near future. All of us at Enesco, including our new D56 colleagues, remain committed to supporting our retailers and consumers with brands and products that are unique and innovative."

Peter Cameron, Lenox Corporation's CEO said: "We are very pleased to have found an appropriate home for Department 56 and its employees. We have great confidence that Department 56 will flourish as part of the Enesco family, an owner with a significant focus on giftware products. This sale allows Lenox to focus on its

core tabletop, designer partnerships and bridal businesses."

The acquisition of Department 56 builds on Enesco's strategy of growth via strategic acquisitions, licensing and internal brand development. Department 56 joins other recently acquired or licensed brands, including: Charming Tails®, Gund®, The Boyds Collection®, Our Name is Mud®, Country Artists®, Gallery of Light™, My Soul's Window™ and The Potter's Shed™.

About Enesco, LLC.

Enesco, LLC, is a global leader in the giftware and home and garden décor industries. Serving more than 44,000 customers worldwide, Enesco distributes products to a wide variety of specialty card and gift retailers, home décor boutiques, mass-market chains and direct mail retailers. With subsidiaries in the United Kingdom, France, Canada and Hong Kong, Enesco serves markets operating in Europe, the Americas, Australia and Asia. The company's product lines include some of the world's most recognized brands including Heartwood Creek® by Jim Shore, Foundations®, Our Name is Mud®, Gund®, Boyds®, Country Artists®, Walt Disney Classics Collection®, Disney Traditions™, Border Fine Arts™, Cherished Teddies®, Bilston & Battersea Enamels®, and Lilliput Lane®, among others. Further information is available on the company's Web site at www.enesco.com.

About Lenox

Lenox Corporation is a market leader in quality tabletop, and giftware products sold under the Lenox, Dansk and Gorham brand names. The company sells its products through wholesale customers who operate gift, specialty and department store locations in the United States and Canada, company-operated retail stores, and direct-to-consumer channels, including catalog, direct mail, media, telemarketing and the Internet. For further information about Lenox, go to www.lenox.com.

**Please remember to bring food items to the meeting.
Deposit in the YELLOW Deacon's Barrel for the homeless
served by the
Hollywood Presbyterian Church
CASH CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY RED
OR CAROLE AT THE MEETING AND FOOD ITEMS
WILL BE PURCHASED.**

Answers:

1. Lord & Taylor
2. W. Bartell, physician
3. Santa
4. Nutcracker
5. Noah

HOW TO CONTACT US:

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dvaccaro@earthlink.net
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northpoleplanner@socal.rr.com

Become a member of Village Addicts! Tell a friend! If you're a D5 Collector, Join Us!
Call:
Peggy Jauregui at (818) 763 3096 for information about Membership

Don't forget to wear your Club Shirt and to bring a potluck dish. One extra Door Prize Ticket given for wearing Club shirt and one extra Door Prize Ticket for bringing a potluck dish.

**Please let Peggy Jauregui know about anyone who needs cheering up...
(818) 763 3096.**

Oh my....Addict: to give up to a strong habit...one addicted to a habit...attached or devoted to a habit...a fiend...a "hard case"...do we need help????

Sunshine Report from Peggy

..Mary Ann & John Cossentine have suffered a devastating loss to their family. The airplane crash in Montana in March was responsible for the deaths of two of John's cousins and their immediate families. Our love and condolences go out to their entire remaining family.
..Don Gordon's mother has suffered a very serious stroke. Love and support to Don at this difficult time for his family.
..Al Acampora's brother died from an infection contracted after heart surgery. Love and prayers to Al and his family.
..Long time member Mary Faubion died after a long illness. Love and prayers to her daughter, Sandra Robinson.
..Clarisse Walquist is undergoing heart related tests. We wish her the best and hope to see her soon.
..Many thanks to all from Peggy Jauregui for the phone calls and cute cards while recovering from back and hip injury. It's much appreciated.



Here is some chatter that has been on the Internet. I don't know what is fact and what is fiction, but I thought it was interesting. According to one e-mail, the Eden Prairie building is still owned by Lenox. So, I am now wondering where D56 headquarters will be. Wouldn't it be nice if it was in Petaluma, CA?

E-MAIL NO. 1: "The new warehouses for D56 product will be in Indiana, not Maryland/NJ, like Lenox was. Even the reps do not know what will change within the next week to 10 days from now. Enesco did not purchase the building in Eden Prairie. Lenox kept that."

E-MAIL NO. 2: "So what happened to all the artists and staff in MSP then?"

E-MAIL NO. 3: "The artists are still around. They let the customer service people go. There was hardly anyone left in that building, from what I was told. I was also told that the gentleman running Enesco, is extremely happy to have the product line. I am hoping that taking the company private again will get the "higher ups" (Alita's note: this sentence seemed to just end in midair)

To re-establish the collectability. If they are smart... They will continue to pay attention to quantity AND price."

From Myrna (4/24/09)

Great news!

Just spoke with Melinda - she stays!!!! She said that she did not find out that she would be staying until late Friday - she was in limbo for 3 days.

She suggested, and I wholeheartedly agree, that we send letters or emails to Enesco management, expressing our appreciation and delight that Melinda will continue to represent D56.

From Judyth Rischall - NCC

I'm certainly glad that Enesco has retained Melinda Seegers. She'll be a valuable asset.

...The address I have for Melinda is:

Melinda Seeger Consumer Service
PO Box 44456, Eden Prairie MN 55344
or (800) 548 - 8696 just have to be patient.
or msslittown@dept56.com

When I tried to access the welcome D56 icon on the Enesco website, I got an error message.

Event information:

Montreal, Quebec, Canada May 14-17

Let's wish Claudette a wonderful trip and visit with her family.

San Antonio TX

Region 8 Roundup August 20 - 23, 2009 for further information go to www.region8roundup.org or contact Witch-in-charge Linda Cook at (512) 255-9982 and Egor will take a message. You can email Linda at lindacook@austin.rr.com. The theme for the event is Halloween.

NCC Cruise information:

February 28 - March 14, 2010 Cruise to Hawaii on the Golden Princess with the NCC. The 15 day cruise departs from Los Angeles and will have stops at Hilo, Hawaii, Honolulu, Oahu, Nawiliwili, Kauai, Lahaina, Maui and Ensenada, Mexico. Please contact Tim or Lilia Kearney at Great Escapes Cruises & Tours (877) 903-1578 or email GrestEscps@aol.com for information.

NCC Sale Package Deals: Pin Shop with one each of the 3 Convention Accessories plus shipping (\$117.50 value) for \$87.45

Two Convention Accessories get 1 free plus free shipping (\$60 value) for \$39.95

Six Snowflake Accessories plus free shipping (\$75 value) for 39.95

Five pins get the 6th one free (\$31 value) for \$26
If anyone is interested, I have the order form, which needs to accompany the order.

* * * * *

From the D56 FAQ page on the website (from Myrna)

Do you offer repair services? *NEW*

We do not have a list of certified repair services to offer. We can recommend contacting the *Collectors' Information Bureau*, a company that deals in contact information for a wide variety of collectibles. They can recommend services providers that do repairs for most collectible problems. They may be reached by calling 1(800) 352-8039. Other sources collectors have suggested to us are local hobby shops that deal with model trains and model airplanes.

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Bud Arntzen's Yard Sale

Bud held his huge Yard Sale on May 15-17. He very generously donated a large portion of his yard to VAA for sale of unsold items from our White Elephant Sale. Bud and VAA want to thank the many volunteers who gave lots of time for set up and working the Yard Sale for three days.

A special thanks to Peggy Jauregui, who organized the volunteers for all four days, and also kept us all well fed during that time, and then returned on Monday for the tear down. Thanks to Cora Smith for the wonderful chili on the Thursday set-up day. Thanks to Myrna Richardson for donuts on Thursday. Thanks to all the volunteers: Frank Smith, Margaret Reichenbach, Pat Harmon, Don Gorden, Alita Rabe, Brian & Barbara Allen, Al Acompora, Carolyn Ferritto, Sandy Fernandez, David and Paula Vaccaro. (Hope I did not leave anyone out!)

A big thanks to Mary Ann Cossentine, who came with bags and bags of donations, most of which were D56 items and were added to VAA's inventory. Don Gorden donated some great items - ask Don to tell you that story! Thanks to Frank and Cora Smith for their donations of lots of great stuff, most of which sold (okay, the Casablanca fan did not sell, to our great surprise!) After deducting costs for the wonderful food provided by Peggy and Cora, VAA netted almost \$300 from the Yard Sale!

The weather was warm (okay, it was very hot, especially on Thursday!), but there is lots of shade in Bud's yard. If you haven't seen Bud's yard, you have a real treat in store! We'll do a separate article in another *Gazette* about Bud's yard and his

new D56 storage room. Suffice it to say that I have a huge case of storage envy!

by Myrna Richardson

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CASUAL LIVING CHRISTMAS STORE

**1036 North E Street
San Bernardino CA
(909) 888-8053**

All D56 Villages

Halloween Display

**ALL ACCESSORIES
DISPLAYED**

New & Retired D56

D56 Gift Items

LOTS OF RETIRED PIECES

Snowbabies

GREAT DISPLAY IDEAS!

Great Selection of Accessories, Trees & Ground Covers

Village Addicts
New Dues Rates for Conversion to Annual Renewal Date
2009

All VAA members will be paying dues on June 1, 2009, and therefore, dues will not be due again until June 1, 2010. At this time, most of us have renewal dates other than May 31. To calculate the amount of dues owed as of the new Annual Renewal Date, June 1, 2009, the attached chart and the attached list will give you your present renewal date and the amount of dues owed based on your present renewal date.

If your present renewal date is (see below), your 2009-2010 dues are:

	Single Membership	Family Membership
May 31	\$28.00	\$35.00
June 30	\$26.00	\$33.00
July 31	\$24.00	\$31.00
August 30	\$22.00	\$29.00
September 30	\$20.00	\$27.00
October 31	\$18.00	\$25.00
November 30	\$16.00	\$23.00
December 31	\$14.00	\$21.00
January 31	\$12.00	\$19.00
February 28	\$10.00	\$17.00
March	\$ 8.00	\$15.00
April 30	\$ 6.00	\$13.00

Chart follows - any questions please contact Myrna or Peggy. Village Addicts Roster . . .

Name	Exp. Date
Acampora, Al & Gordon, Don	11/30/2009
Allen, Brian & Barbara (BJ)	1/31/2009
Arntzen, Bud	11/30/2009
Benne, Robert & Geri	12/31/2009
Berry, Carol & Tom	2/28/2010
Biersbach, Glenda	6/30/2009
Blair, David & Darwish, Daniel	12/31/2009
Bonino, Jill	12/31/2009
Campbell, Pat	11/30/2009
Christian, Robert & Betty	11/30/2009
Coffman, Laurie & Ron	11/30/2009
Collard, Bruce "Red" & Carol	7/31/2009
Comer, Thomas & Rosalie	10/31/2009
Cook, Lynn	3/31/2009
Cossentine, Mary Ann	1/31/2009
Cox, Paul & Lois	8/31/2009
Dutcher, David & Dayleen	4/30/2010
Eckberg, Ted & Jackie	8/31/2009
Edwards, Dee	11/30/2009
Egizi, Joseph	11/30/2009
Erickson, Barbara	11/30/2009
Farley, Ed & Gayle	waived
Fernandez, Sandra	11/30/2009
Ferritto, Carolyn	3/31/2010
Fillet, Claudette	6/1/2009
Fornof Family, The	12/31/2009
Gietzen, Pam & Lon	12/31/2009
Graf, Dick & Ruth	waived
Grindstaff, Sandy	8/31/2009
Gross, Robert & Barbar	8/31/2009
Guerrero, David	1/31/2009
Haggerty, Bob & Greta	11/30/2009
Harmon, Pat	11/30/2009
Higgins, Stan & Ethel	11/30/2009
Howard, Robert	7/31/2009
Inouye, Roy & Jo Ann	11/30/2009
Jauregui, Peggy	11/30/2009
Jones, Steve & Sue	7/31/2009
Karr, Paula J. & Vios, Steven	2/28/2009
Krone, Betty	11/30/2009
Lauritzen, Ridi & Jan	6/30/2009
Lind, Helen	11/30/2009

Name	Exp. Date
Little, Tom & Geri	3/3/2009
Lorenze, Lee & Karen	11/30/2009
Loufek, Lynn & Bertie Dian	11/30/2009
Lundgren, Chic & JoAnn	3/31/2010
Mallon, Patricia	12/31/2009
Mangassarian, Jim	11/30/2009
Matus, Joanne M.	8/31/2008
Metcalfe, Shirley & Walter	11/30/2008
Michaelson, Burton & Dolores	12/30/2009
Miller, Sandy & Keith	1/31/2009
Morton, Doris & Greg	11/30/2009
Murker, Wally & Ursula	1/31/2010
Neblett, Carol	11/30/2008
Neiberg, Arlene, Susan & Karen	11/30/2009
O'Donnell, Janet	11/30/2009
Pressman, Linda	11/30/2009
Preston, Harry & Jehane	11/30/2009
Pritchett, Grace	4/31/2009
Quezambra, Debbie	11/30/2009
Rabe, Alita	11/30/2009
Redeker, Andrea	8/31/2009
Reichenbach, Margaret	11/30/2009
Reyna, Bill & Barbara	10/31/2008
Reynolds, Gail	12/31/2008
Richardson, Myrna	6/1/2009
Rischall, Judyth & Jerry	1/31/2010
Robinson, Sandra & Faubion, Mary	11/30/2009
Ruddell, Faires & Joan	2/28/2009
Rudin, Moira	6/30/2009
Shapiro, Sharen	2/28/2009
Sholer, Marlene (Fields) & Stan	1/31/2010
Smith, Frank & Cora	5/31/2009
Snider, Shirley	11/30/2009
Stone, John & Sharon	11/30/2009
Tippit, Terri & Bill	waived
Twitchell, Vicki	10/4/2008
Vaccaro, David & Paula	12/31/2009
Walquist, Clarice	11/30/2009
Whitchurch, Ed & Debbie	4/30/2008
Whitley, Rosalie & Bob	11/30/2009
Wood, June & Len	8/31/2009
Yearly, Carol & William	11/30/2009

**GREEN THUMB & GREEN ARROW NURSERIES
CHRISTMAS COLLETIBLES**

CANOGA PARK
21812 SHERMAN WAY
(818) 340 6400 X 6

EL TORO
23782 BRIDGER RD
(949) 837 3040 X 22

SANTA CLARITA
23734 No. SAN FERNANDO RD
(818) 365 0013

NORTH HILLS
8845 SEPULVEDA BLVD
(818) 894 8301

VENTURA
1899 VICTORIA AVE
(805) 642 8517

SAN MARCOS
1019 SAN MARCOS BLVD
(760) 744 3822

Please mention Village Addicts when you shop at a Green Thumb/Arrow store.

Pictures from the May 3rd event at Claudette's.



Seems as though everyone enjoyed themselves!

Pats note (confession) to all of you.....

I have more pictures from our last meeting, but my computer ate them, so I have to have them resent and then I'll get them off to all of you.:(

From the NCC Bulletin, Vol. XVII, Issue 1 – Spring 2009....

Thought I would pass a long some things from this bulletin that you might enjoy ...

Under the heading of “Spring Display Tips” from Vern Brown of the San Diego 56ers – **KITCHEN MAGIC..**

Several Years back, I had a coffee/spice grinder on my Christmas list. Of course, I received two of them. I have found that extra grinder has become an indispensable tool when it comes time to work on the village display. The spice grinder will provide you with a wealth of **ground cover** options. Whatever you decide to grind, it needs to be thoroughly dry before grinding. By grinding up chopped parsley leaves, you will end up with a perfect grass-like ground cover. Grind cocoa mulch and you’ll have something that works great for dirt roads. Add fine ground coffee to the ground cocoa mulch and you have a good representation of soil to use as farm fields.

If you buy a real Christmas tree or wreath, collect the fallen needles and save them for grinding next year. The ground needles make a usable grass groundcover plus it fills the room with the smell of Christmas. Your guests will think you use real trees in your display. The aroma does not last for a long period of time so you may wish to ‘refresh’ the grass every now and again. By using rosemary, you will have a similar effect but the smell will put you in a garden instead of a forest.

As stated before the item you wish to grind needs to be dry. There needs to be enough of the item in the grinding bowl to cover the grinding blades. If you don’t have the grinding bowl reasonably filled, the grind will be very coarse and the texture inconsistent. Also, your grinder needs to be used only for your village once you have ground up non-food items. Who knows, once you start using a grinder you may never buy over-the-counter groundcovers again.

Now, for something totally different. Large wooden kitchen matches can be used in many different ways to enhance the detail of your village. Of course, the first thing to do is remove the match head. Kitchen shears do the job quite easily. Next, depending upon what you plan to do with the matches, you could stain or paint them. Left natural, the color of the match sticks seems ‘unnatural’ when put in the village. If you decide to stain the wood (very strong instant coffee should dull the finish), do the staining before using any glue. The glue will block the stain from penetrating the wood.

A few more ideas for using wooden matches: Cut the match sticks into half inch lengths and stack them to look like firewood. Depending on the scale of the train, you could again cut the match sticks the length of the railroad ties and stack them near the track.

* * *

From the Delaware Valley 56ers (PA)

Questions:

What can you find about the following question?

1. A special version of the Chelsea Market Flower Monger was made for what department store?
2. Who is the new doctor in NEV?
3. Who is on the Coke sign on the roof of the CIC soda fountain?
4. Which north Pole factory is hand carved?
5. Who is selling stuffed animals in his shop?

See page two for answers

More questions:

1. I really need a hammer to hang a picture of Santa. Where can I get one in the CIC?
2. Where (2 places) can we go to see a show in Dickens’ Village?
3. Where do the citizens of Snow Village work to earn their BA, BS or PhD?
4. Where do Santa and Mrs. Claus live in North Pole Village?
5. What did Chisel McTimer create in his art studio?

Answers at our next meeting.....

From the Big D 56ers

Name that Tune by Pat Conway

1. Colorless Yuletide
2. Castaneous-colored Seed Vesticated in a Conflagration
3. Singular Yearning for the Twin Anterior Incisors
4. Righteous Darkness
5. Arrival time; 2400 Hours weather: cloudless
6. Loyal Followers Advance
7. Far Off in a Feeder
8. Array the Corridors
9. Bantam Male Percussionist
10. Monarchical Triad
11. Nocturnal Noiselessness
12. Jehovah Deactivate Blithe Chevaliers
13. Red Man En Route to Borough
14. Frozen Precipitation Commence
15. Proceed and Enlighten on the Pinnacle
16. The Quadruped with the Vermilion Proboscis
17. Query Regarding Identity of Descendent
18. Delight for the Planet
19. Give Attention to the Melodious Celestial Beings
20. The Dozen Festive 24 Hour Intervals

Hint: #2 is “All I want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth.....have fun I’ll have the answers at the June meeting.

pat

What are the different series within the Heritage Village Collection?

We currently offer the following collections:

- The *Dickens' Village Series* - the holidays during Victorian England
- The *New England Village Series* - historic small town America in the 1800s
- The *Alpine Village Series* - a cozy European mountain hamlet
- *Christmas in the City* - a look back at the hustle and bustle of downtown
- The *North Pole Series* - Inspired by the enduring legend of Santa Claus

What is the main difference between *The Original Snow Village* and the *Heritage Village Collections*?

The Original Snow Village is crafted from ceramic, is slightly larger, and has a shiny, glazed finish. The Heritage Village Collection pieces are made from porcelain, are slightly smaller in scale and have a matte finish.

What would be the best adhesive to use to make minor repairs to Village pieces and Snowbabies figurines?

We recommend Super Glue gel formula as a repair agent. Please be sure to remove all other adhesives before Repairing. (Old adhesives can be safely removed by using a hairdryer to soften the old glue).

How do I remove a light cord that has slipped into the building? ***NEW***

To remove a light that has become lodged in a piece, we would suggest using a needle nose pliers to grasp the metal butterfly clips. Another idea would be to thread a twist-tie (used to seal a plastic bag) or thin piece of wire through the butterfly clip of the light, twist the ends together, and carefully remove through the opening of the piece. As a last resort, you may wish to cut the cord, and work the clip out of the opening, bulb first. You would then replace it with a new light cord. Department 56 Consumers Services stocks many different product specific light cord/ adapter units. Your favorite retail will sell the standard light with switched cords (56.99028) and light cords with auxiliary clips (56.53039).

Will any village piece work with the Display Anywhere Lighting/ Battery Operated Lighting? ***NEW***

The Retrofit lighting units (56.53501) are designed to be used with most Department 56 buildings, both old and new, converting them to cordless. This light unit will allow you to use your Village pieces in places where cords would detract from the beauty of the display. Four AAA batteries will give you approximately 75 hours of light before the batteries need to be replaced.

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As I'm partial to Dickens' Village I thought I give you some information from the D56 web site....*pat*

In 2009 Department 56 celebrates the Silver anniversary of the Dickens' Village. To commemorate this anniversary, Department 56 is introducing several inspiring new pieces to give Charles Dickens admirers a fresh series of buildings....



Crown Tree Inn



Abel Beesley Butcher



Neilan Lund Gallery



Golden Swan Baker

June Meeting....

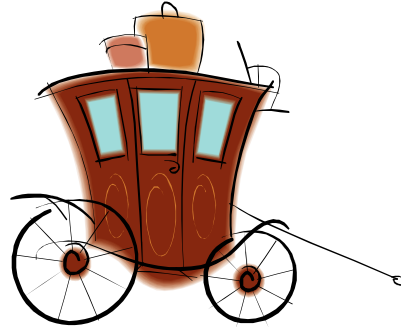
Saturday, June 6th - High Noon

First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
Upper Terrace Room on Yucca Avenue
One half block east of Gower Street
Hollywood CA

Bring a pot-luck dish for lunch..

For those with a GPS - - -
1763 Gower Street - Los Angeles CA

101 North - off at exit 8C (Gower)
turn left on Gower, go under
Freeway and turn left on Yucca,
Church is on the right
101 South - off at exit 8C (Gower)
Cross Gower (you'll be on Yucca)
Church is on the right



Village Addicts
2676 Galindo Avenue
Simi Valley CA 93065



"We Add to your addiction."