



NORTHERN LIGHTS NEWS

NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLECTORS' CLUB, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Volume 24, Issue 2

February 2015

Presidential Notes

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Greetings to all – now that we've all survived our Christmas and New Year – it's on to winter. We've had a wonderful January weather wise, compared to the frigid cold last year. I'm sure we are all thankful for that. I am sure this is somewhat of a sad time for all of us, time to take the decorations down and for some of us – our villages. Take the time when you are packing up your stuff to unclutter and get rid of any old stuff that you just aren't using anymore. I keep a box in my garage that I fill with stuff for goodwill – so it's always available but it's out of the way and not in a pile in my house. This is also a good time to complete your inventory in your Village D-Tails book with any new purchases you have made. I find that when I store my houses I try to lump them together in like categories – for example all my mountain/up north houses go in one area with their accessories, all my downtown pieces and then all my regular houses. It makes it a lot easier when I put it up the next year to have everything for that section in one area.

On January 10th we had our Annual House Hop. We visited six different homes. Each and everyone's displays were absolutely beautiful. It's amazing to me how still awestruck I am when I see another village display. We all know how much work and time goes into these displays and it is wonderful to share our love and joy of collecting with others. We started at my house bright and early and I was surprised at how many of you came as it was REALLY early (9am) and very cold that morning. Hopefully the egg bake and fruit filled your tummies warm and gave you energy for the remainder of the day. Off to Jan and Darnell's home we went to view their massive North Pole collection, Possible Dream Santa's and her other lovely decorations. The next stop was Shirley's home where she displayed Dickens', well and of course LUNCH (ooh, ahh, eats). Shirley stated she's going to keep her village up this year and work on it the next few months tweaking it here and there – it was a wonderful display – can't wait to see what else you are going to add to it! The next location was Darlene's home – after having surgery I'm not sure how she got all of her North Pole display done – a miracle in itself! We all oo'd and ah'd over her display and now she will be showing us all at our next meeting how she built her mountains/platforms – see what you get when you show us your craft – a time slot at the next meeting! Haha – oh and I never found the second skeleton in the display!!! Down the road a bit we stopped at the Alpine Village at Barbara's home. Barbara claimed her display would be nothing compared to everyone else – boy was she wrong! What a darling display she had for us to see. And last but not least we headed to Tom's for our final stop and pot luck dinner. Tom's displays are always so much fun to see. He collects Snow Village, North Pole, and Possible Dream Santas and goodness I can't remember what else – but it is definitely a home to see and will take you hours to look at every room. Thank you Tom for organizing our House Hop and providing a final destination for our pot luck.

Special points of interest:

- Next meeting:
Thursday, Feb 5th
- Groundhog Day
Monday, Feb 2nd
- Valentine's Day
Saturday, Feb 14th
- President's Day
Monday, Feb 16th
- Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, Feb 18th
- Only 51 days until
Spring
- Only 276 days until
Halloween

Presidents notes continued...

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On January 18th I had the pleasure of driving up to Duluth with Diane, Mel, and Shirley for the Village North's Annual House Hop. Tom met us up there and we had a great time seeing Kim, David & Linda, and Lani & Mike's homes. Again it is always so much fun seeing how others displays and getting new ideas for our own displays, but most importantly getting to know/see new/old friends. Thank you Village North for opening up your homes to us each year.

February's meeting will be held on Thursday, Feb 5th at 7:00pm – hope to see you all there.

Your Prez - Chris



As the Village Turns by Lisa Tuset

Season 2 Episode 2

[TOP ↑](#)

(The following is a fictional soap opera)

As another holiday season comes to an end, it's always fun to reflect on all of the creative ideas you have gathered throughout the year. Display ideas come to all of us in different ways, whether it is walking through the mall, checking out displays from different retail stores, or checking out the villages during the Holiday Hop.

One thing I have learned that will really enhance my Snow Village is to start shopping at Crafts Direct or Hobby Lobby. It's amazing how decorating a few of your trees make the village pop. Maybe I will be able to find little ghosts & skeletons for our Halloween Village.

Thanks to Chris, we finally have the Red Owl House which has been a favorite of mine for a few years. As she makes plans to go to her next gathering, I am making my list of village pieces she should look out for. I wish I had started on the Halloween Village in its early years, when the Halloween Village was first introduced.

I would love to have the houses that really remind me of Halloween like the Haunted Mansion, 1031 Trick or Treat Drive, and the Haunted Victorian House. Not to mention how great some of the accessories Dept 56 introduced like the Haunted

Tree House or the Halloween Dance which played the Monster Mash song.



Birthdays

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Darlene Seppman	February 3 rd	Barbara Jensen	March 3 rd
Lani Kolanczyk	February 10 th	Kathy Benson	March 25 th

January 2015 Introductions

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The [new introductions](#) for January 2015 have been released.

Several accessories have also been released.

There are several new additions from the villages and also from the movie Frozen.



“Bead Its” and Girl Scouts

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Debbie’s granddaughter, Natalie, and her Girl Scout Troop 159 from Becker, MN assembled the “Bead Its” at one of their troop meetings. The Second Grade Brownies had a great time designing their snow people. The girls picked the pieces they wanted, then put them together, giggling at how silly some of them looked. The concept of assembling them upside down was a little challenging at first – some bodies on top of heads, hats for feet, word spacers upside down. But after a couple tries, the girls were assembling like pros. Each girl made several, and got to keep their favorite one. At their next troop meeting, the Brownies, along with other Becker area Girl Scouts, went to Shepard of Grace Senior Community for an evening of Christmas caroling. After the sing-along, each resident was given a “Bead It” snow person to decorate their rooms. The girls used this activity to understand that a big company, like Department 56, would be so generous as to provide the materials for a fun activity, and that paying that generosity forward to the Seniors made it special.



Upcoming Events



[California Gold Gathering](#)
 Surf, Sun & Fun
 September 11 – 13
 2015
 Sheraton Hotel & Marina
 San Diego

Cash Corner

Carmela Ariemma

Hi everyone...

Wasn't the House Hop fun! Everyone enjoying the January thaw. I can tell you that your treasurer most certainly is. And with a lot melting away, our bank balance has barely budged.

With clearing checks to the Crystal Police for \$200 and \$50 for House Hop gifts, our balance is looking good at \$1,958.59.

Hope to see you all in February.

Your Treasurer, Mel

I



CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT
 4141 Douglas Drive North Phone: 763-531-1014
 Crystal, MN 55422-1696 Fax: 763-537-3279

January 20, 2015

Northern Lights Collector Club
 Carmela Ariemma
 5600 Phoenix Street
 Golden Valley, MN 55422

Dear Ms. Ariemma,

I am writing today to thank you for your generous donation to the Crystal Police Department Canine Unit.

Each year throughout the country, Police canines apprehend hundreds of dangerous offenders ensuring the safety of Officers. Police canines are willing to put themselves at risk to protect their partner. Due to significant local government aid cuts over the past several years, the Crystal Canine Unit is not possible without the support of community organizations such as Northern Lights Collector Club.

On behalf of our Canine Officer Rocco and the entire staff of the Crystal Police Department, thank you for your sponsorship of this worthwhile public safety initiative. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Reverting
 Crystal Police Chief

NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLECTORS CLUB

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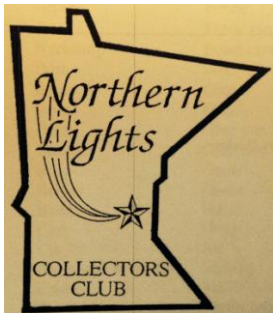
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Recipe Showcase

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Janet Blume's Hot Fruit Cup

(Not an actual picture of Janets recipe)



Apple Pie Filling or Sliced Apples

Cherry Pie Filling

Mandarin Oranges

Peaches

Pineapple Chunks

1 tsp. Cinnamon

½ Cup Brown Sugar

Cook apple pie filling or sliced apples in the microwave with sugar

Drain mandarin oranges, peaches, and pineapple chunks.

Combine all ingredients in crock pot, mix well.

Cook for four hours on low. A higher temp may be used for a shorter cook time.

Club Charity Updates

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Did you know that you can donate to Toys for Tots all year around? They have two programs, ["In Memory"](#) and ["In Honor"](#), that allow you to make donations in the name of an individual or even in a family's name.

Our Club Sponsor

Please support our club sponsor ...

[Jeri's Hallmark](#)

345 Willow Bend

Crystal, MN 55428



Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the [Crystal Police Outreach Office](#). This is directly across from the Hallmark Store.