



NORTHERN LIGHTS NEWS

NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLECTORS' CLUB, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Volume 24, Issue 4

April 2015

Presidential Notes

Inside this issue:

March Meeting Pictures	2
As the Village Turns	2
Birthdays	2
Authentic Village Art	3
Upcoming Events	3
Easter with D56	3
Cash Corner with Mel	3
Recipe Showcase	4
Club Charity updates	4

Happy Spring Everyone! I am so looking forward to some warm weather and sunshine. As always the winter seems to drag on and on here. I finally took the last of my villages down so it really does feel like winter is DONE! I don't usually keep my stuff up this long – but seems like it's been one of those busy winters with something going on each weekend.

I sure am getting inspired by the stuff folks are posting on the Dept 56 Villages Facebook page. If you have not checked out this website yet – you've got to. So many collectors all across the US post pictures and have great ideas for our villages. Also take a look at Dept 56 Villages, Buy, Sell or Trade Facebook page. This is a spot for us to post things we are trying to sell and also a place to look for those pieces you can't live without!

At our last meeting we all participated in a display contest. We had 4 stations set up with 4 different themes: Easter, St. Patrick's Day, Valentine's Day, and Halloween. We were divided into 4 teams – each station had a bag full of goodies in them and each display had to use everything in the bags. There were some unconventional things in the bags of course to make it a little more interesting. Our winner was the St. Patrick's Day display. What a great time we all had and it was fun to work our creativity and imagination.

April's meeting will be a Wake for our dearly departed pieces. Please make sure you have prepared some type of memorial to your retired piece. We will also be having a "Dead Spread" – any food/drink item that you might see at a funeral or wake. Or the food can be something tied to your village piece. Whatever you choose to do I'm sure it will be enjoyed by all. I'm most looking forward to what Sister Mary Francis has to share with us – we haven't seen her for 2 years so I'm sure she will have lots to talk about.

In the works for this summer will be a joint adventure with the group from Duluth – more to come on that soon!

Carol shared with us the news we all did not want to hear, our sponsor store Jeri's Hallmark has decided to close its doors. It is believed at this time that they will close in June. The club and this store go a long way back. Jeri's been the sponsor for about 7 years and prior to that it was Robin & John Lee that sponsored our group. It is getting harder and harder to find stores to buy our precious D56 pieces from. The searching and buying of pieces will be a bit harder and if I know our group – they are up for a challenge – it makes the hunt a lot more satisfying when we find "the" piece we were looking for.

See you all in April for our next meeting – your prez - Chris

Special points of interest:

- Next meeting:
Thursday, April 2nd
- April Fool's Day
Wednesday, Apr 1st
- Easter Day
Sunday, Apr 5th
- Tax Day
Wednesday, Apr 15th
- Dream Books
Tuesday, Apr 21st
- Only 81 days until
Summer
- Only 213 days until
Halloween

March Meeting Pictures

[TOP ↑](#)



As the Village Turns by Lisa Tuset

Season 2 Episode 2

[TOP ↑](#)

(The following is a fictional soap opera)



The Days leading up to the wake are always filled with hours of reflection. Over the years, several good villages have lost some wonderful homes. This past year was no exception.

Snow Village was hit hard with the loss of "Our Lady of Grace Church", indeed times are changing. The snow forced the "Deep Blue Car Wash" to leave for greener pastures.

With the advances in digital technology, the people in Dicken's Village didn't support the theater anymore, causing the death of the "Punch & Judy Theatre". "Miss Lavender's Soaps & Sachet" also was met with misfortune.

Devastation was felt in the New England Village as well with the extinction of "The Dirty Owl" and the fatality of the "Tucker Point Light".

Even popular spots in the Alpine Village seemed to vanish. Superstores for wine and beer forced "Rhineland Wine Tavern" to meet its demise.

The rapid expansion of "The Goat Herder's House" proved premature and caused its destruction – goat meat just didn't catch on in the U.S.

I will leave you with this from Cats

Memory

Turn your face to the moonlight
Let your memory lead you
Open up, enter in
If you find there
the meaning of what happiness is
Then a new life will begin.



Birthdays

[TOP ↑](#)

Phyllis Fahey	Apr 1 st	Chris Riley	May 6 th
Dan Tuset	Apr 3 rd	Debbie Oheme	May 23 rd
Diane Nelson	Apr 18 th		
Mike Kolanczyk	Apr 27 th		

Authentic Village Art

[TOP](#) ↑

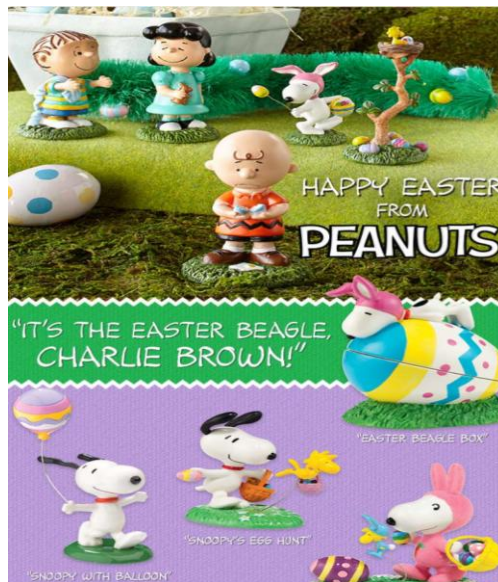
Take a look at some [Village Art at the D56](#) website. They have canvas artwork and candles that are inspired from the Department 56 historical archives.



Easter Celebration at Dept 56

[TOP](#) ↑

Celebrate Easter with then [Department 56 Licensed Brand of Peanuts](#) characters.



Cash Corner

Carmela Ariemma

Hi everyone,

It's Spring and Easter is right around the corner...Peeps, chocolate bunnies and Easter egg hunts.

Well there will be no hunting for our cash. It's right where we left it in the

bank safe and sound at \$1,792.59.

Hope everyone has a Blessed Easter and will see you in May!

Your Treasurer,

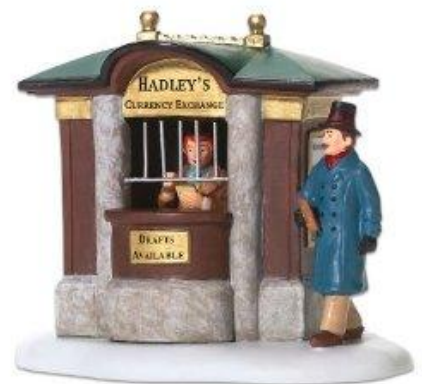
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Upcoming Events



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



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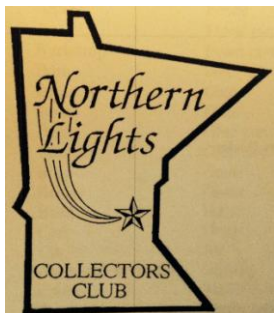
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Recipe Showcase

[TOP ↑](#)

Peas and Pancetta



¼ pound pancetta, diced (1 cup)
1 shallot, sliced
1 teaspoon minced garlic
Grated zest and juice of 1 orange
3 cups shelled fresh peas (about 1 pound)
¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
Kosher salt

Cook the pancetta in a large skillet over medium-low heat until crispy, about 5 minutes. Add the shallot and garlic, cook 1 minute and then add the orange juice. Increase the heat to medium, add the peas and cook until tender, about 3 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat and fold in the orange zest, parsley and butter. Taste for seasoning and add salt if necessary, though you shouldn't need much, if any, because the pancetta adds a natural saltiness to the dish.
Photograph by Yunhee Kim.

[Recipe courtesy of Michael Symon from Foodnetwork.com.](#)

Club Charity Updates

[TOP ↑](#)

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.