



# NORTHERN LIGHTS NEWS

NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLECTORS' CLUB, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Volume 23, Issue 10

October 2014

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### Special points of interest:

- [Next Meeting](#)  
Thursday, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7:00 pm Topic:  
Holiday Bags
- Keepsake Ornament  
Debut  
Saturday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>
- Columbus Day  
Monday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>
- Only 31 days until  
Halloween
- Only 86 days until  
Christmas

## Presidential Notes

Hey gang – what a month September has been. We had our first meeting after our summer break and some of us attended the Region 8 Gathering in San Antonio, Texas. We have a few busy months coming up – our next meeting we will be making some display bags to donate to a few local retirement and nursing homes. November will be our Annual Chili Feed and December brings our Annual Christmas Party. And of course this is the time of year that we all start setting up our Halloween displays and then on to our winter displays. How do we get it all done?

At our last meeting we were given the chance to meet the Crystal Police's first K-9 dog, Rocco. The Crystal Police allows us to use their meeting space which is located right across the parking lot from our club sponsor Jeri's Hallmark. What a warm and friendly dog he was. He has served his community well for the first year. His expenses are not covered by the police forces budget so his care is totally relied on by generous donations. The club has decided to sponsor and donate to Rocco's expenses.

Texas – was everything that I expected it to be. We had great speakers, seminars and the food of course was fabulous! There were 9 of us from the club that attended. On Thursday, Shirley and I went on the bus tour to Fredericksburg and visited the Christmas store. The town was very quaint and offered lots of shopping of which we are known to be good at! We both picked up some wonderful goodies and I also won a door prize from the store – it was one of the Salem Houses. Thursday night we headed down to the Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio – wow what a site that was! The temps were in the 90's that week – so it was very warm down there but we had a great time walking around, doing the boat tour, and then stopping to eat at the oldest Mexican Restaurant, Caso Rio on the walk and had the best Mexican meal I have ever had.

On Friday morning, we started the day off bright and early and attended some seminars, shopped in the Marketplace, visited and met new friends. Friday night is the NCC Bingo night and once again our table was unlucky – I was darn close with several games all I needed were 2 numbers. Tom needs to work on fixing this so at least one of us can win at Bingo! The money collect at Bingo was over a \$1000 which was all given to the committee's charity choice, The Burned Out Survivors Funds. Saturday brought more seminars and more visiting and of course more shopping! We ended the night with our banquet and auction. The auction had 59 items that were donated. I tried to bid on one piece, but did not succeed. Our Janet was successful on one of the pieces she really wanted. Melinda's quilt, as always, brought in one of the highest bids – it was so beautiful and I can't wait to see her quilt for next year it will be a Red, White & Blue themed. After the banquet we did the room hop and once again found lots of treasures we could not leave Texas without. Barbara was a big winner as the "newbie" to the conventions – she won 14 door prizes in 2 days!

Well it's always good to be home and now start the process of planning, I mean obsessing, about our villages.

Happy Obsessing – your Prez Chris

## Hallmark Keepsake Ornament Debut

[TOP ↑](#)

This year's [Keepsake Ornament debut](#) will be this October 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>. You can find all of the Hallmark ornaments with the [2014 Online Dream Book](#). This year there are more than 100 new Keepsake Ornaments available, including limited-quantity and new first-in series ornaments. There are weekend only special offers October 4<sup>th</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup>.



## As the Village Turns by Lisa Tuset

Season 1 Episode 10

[TOP ↑](#)

(The following is a fictional soap opera)

Coming back from the gathering, Chris and Shirley noticed how the leaves on the trees have started to turn. They realized how fast the summer went, and decided they needed one more road trip before the holiday kicked up into full force. Being at the gathering with others who share the same love of Christmas, only made them want more. What better way to keep Christmas alive, then to head off to [Mickey's Merry Christmas Village](#).

This trip was going to be a true Christmas explosion of holiday cheer. They decided to start the adventure with a ride on [Mickey's Holiday train](#) through the entire village to see all the changes. Shirley had her digital camera so

she could take several pictures of the village. These pictures would become useful to plan out how to make the most of their trip. Because they booked their train reservations through D56 travel, dinner at Mickey's Christmas Castle was also included.

During dinner, the waiter came over with a couple of Mickey malt. The waiter explained they were sent over by the two guys near the soda fountain. Chris looked over and recognized it was Goofy and Pluto, and immediately invited them to their table. It was such a great conversation with the guys that they all left the castle and headed to Minnie's Bakery for some Mickey

custom cookies.

The next day Chris and Shirley decided to walk through the village and check out the [Mickey topiary](#). Chris was so distracted by the detail of the topiary that she walked right through a Mouse Crossing sign. No mouse was hurt, so Chris only received a warning. Walking further, Chris and Shirley noticed the new [Mickey's Cinema](#) and decided to spend the rest of the day watching Christmas cartoon classics.

Next stop, the Keepsake Ornament debut on Oct 4-5.



## Birthdays

[TOP ↑](#)

Gerry McGraw	October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Shefeland	November 15 <sup>th</sup>
Nancy Rodriquez	October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Iacoviello	December 9 <sup>th</sup>
		Doris Stokes	December 23 <sup>rd</sup>

## [Department56.com spotlight](#)

[TOP](#) ↑

The Village Minute is a wonderful collection of videos that showcase collector pieces.

Here is the latest installment about the Haunted Rails.

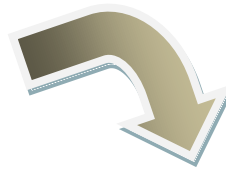
The episodes have included the Harley Davidson line and the National Lampoon line as well as others. Of the 11 episodes, five have been focused on Halloween.



## How did they do that??

[TOP](#) ↓

Here is a "How to" [tutorial](#) from a youtube contributor by the name of Franx69. It shows the creation of a rocky platform using styrofoam and simple tools. It doesn't state how long it took to build, form, and paint it. But the end result has good detail work and shows what can be done with time and patience.



## Cash Corner

Carmela Ariemma

[TOP](#) ↓

Hi Everyone...

Back from the NCC Round up in a VERY HOT San Antonio...sorry that some of you could not make it, missed ya. Can't see how we didn't win the Newsletter contest...you'll get'em next time Dan.

What is a winner though is our bank balance. In fact, we are holding steady as the heat and humidity is holding steady in Texas. With the most recent dues deposit of \$205 and a \$95 check clearing for the club picnic, we are at \$2,178.59. There are no outstanding bills and we are expecting some outstanding dues, but we are doing just fine you'all. See ya Thursday.

## Upcoming Events



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

Your Treasurer...



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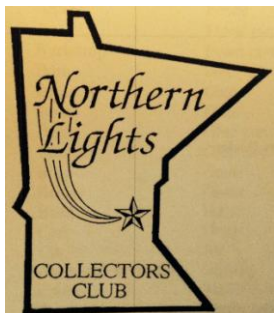
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## September's Meeting and Rocco

[TOP ↑](#)

At September's meeting, we met [Rocco](#). He is a police dog with the Crystal Police Department. It was interesting hearing about how they utilize Rocco in everyday situations and his training. We decided as a group to donate \$200 to the Crystal Police Department for Rocco's daily needs.

Just recently you may have seen on the [Kare11 news](#) that Rocco was the victim of violence himself after having a brick thrown through the window of a squad car he was waiting in.

We also got creative in making ornaments from the "[Bead it Collection](#)" by Enesco. The beads were then donated.



## 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.