

VILLAGE ADDICTS GAZETTE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING APRIL 3, 2010

Myrna and Stan opened the meeting at 12:56 PM for our Happy Easter Meeting. Everyone enjoyed the lunch and several members will put recipes in the next Gazette.

Bud talked about the meeting he had with Cora and Myrna at Green Arrow/Green Thumb with John Hulio. John sets up their Dept 56 displays in the store. They talked about a summer event but no details yet. They may put up a display that will remain up all year with VAA Club info with it.

Stan gave the Treasurer's Report. As of April 3, 2010, the bank balance is \$1,007.47 and the Member Dues account has \$3,352.32. The Auction in February paid for the Feb meeting lunch but that is all. Dues are due at the end of May.

Red shared that the Church facility where VAA meets is in bad shape financially. He asked if we could afford to double the rent to \$200 a meeting. The first meeting with this higher charge would be August 2010. Church is low on custodians so the tables and chairs may not always be set up. We may need to do our own set up but the Church will take everything down.

In addition, Club donations bring in about 70% of the total rent for the room each meeting. Jill Bonino moved, Kathie Cohen seconded and all approved paying \$200 rent for each meeting at the Church beginning in August 2010.

Peggy had several announcements from the Sunshine Committee. Red Collard lost his sister Betty recently. Clarice is still working on getting rid of a blood clot. She sends her "hellos" to everyone but needs to continue to rest. Alita is recovering very well from hip surgery. She is doing great. Joann Inouye had knee surgery and will be back in June or August. Ethel, Stan's wife, fell in the shower and is

healing from a back injury. And Claudette has recovered from a respiratory infection.

The annual dues renewal will be in the June Gazette and a printout of membership will be available at the June meeting.

Judyth gave the NCC Report. The "Seasons of Michigan" will be held Sept 16-19, 2010, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Livonia, MI 48152. Group rate per night will be \$95 plus tax. Hotel phone is 888-201-1718 or 734-464-1300. Email migathering@att.net for further information or visit the website at www.villagecollectorsofMI.com.

October will be VAA's Birthday Banquet. We need addresses of previous members so special invitations can be sent out. There will be Special Raffle at the October meeting. There will be 7 signed Dept 56 pieces that have been redone for the 25th Anniversary Dickens Village collection. One ticket will be \$35. The October meeting will be a catered event.

Jan Lauritzen handed out info about computer puzzles that you can do online. You can use pictures of houses and villages to make your own computer puzzles in jpeg.

Linda Yount is working on the VAA website. It will have links to shops, puzzles, past Gazettes and list of officers.

Stan demonstrated two new Mr. Christmas animated pieces...One was a Bob Sled Run and the other was a Ski Run.

Jim Ponce from Enesco, the current owner of Dept 56, had a digital slide show of the new introductions for 2010 and answered questions about current operations of Dept 56.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45PM.

Jill Bonino

Many thanks to Jill for helping out with the minutes!



AND THE WINNERS WERE.....

Special Raffle

Mini Table Display - Barbara Reyna

Raffle -

Floral Arrangement by David Blair - Barbara Reyna

Santa Toyland - Judyth Rischall (hope this is correct - I couldn't read my notes☹)

Great Expectations - Dayleen Dutcher

Sir John Falstaff Inn - Lynn ?

Verna Maes Boutique - Carolyn Ferritto

Railroad Station - Red Collard

Flight of Fancy - Don Gorden

Door Prizzzzzeess -

Springtime Stories - Cathee Cohen

Fostoria Egg - Donated by Bud Arntzen - Bill Reyna

Easter Bunnies - Dayleen Dutcher

Easter Bunnies - Dayleen Dutcher

Elegant Egg's - Joanne Lundgren

Not Chocolate Bunny - Peggy Jauregui

Chocolate Egg - Jill Bonino

Chocolate Egg - Carolyn Ferritto

Glass Basket - Daphne Lawson

Grab Bag #1 - Barbara Allen

Grab Bag #2 - Linda Yount

Grab Bag #3 - Barbara Reyna

Special THANKS to Bud for organizing VAA donations

And to Cora for the CHOCOLATE eggs and for putting the special raffle table display together for us.



Ramblings of a Lame Duck

by Myrna Richardson, the almost ex Co-Prez



I can't believe that it's almost been two years since I made the decision to run for VAA president (again!). At the time, I was convinced that the Club needed an infusion of new ideas and maybe a tweak or two on some of our traditions.

I was delighted when I was elected junior co-prez at the August meeting, and even more excited when Bud volunteered to act as co-pres with me. What an honor. We had an exciting year, including a bus trip shopping extravaganza, lots of great open houses, an amazing White Elephant Sale in February 2009 and a fabulous Luau, compete with all things Hawaiian. The executive committee implemented budgeting procedures, including a change to an annual membership renewal date. Lots of work, but lots of

fun because of the enthusiasm of all of the officers and committee chairs.

We had some trepidation when Dept 56 filed for bankruptcy in October 2008. In fact, some of us, myself included, became depressed! What a major sigh of relief when Enesco bought Dept 56 in spring 2009, keeping Melinda Segers in place as the face and voice of Dept 56.

In August 2009, Kimberly (the "Idea Gal") agreed to become co-prez, and the 2009-2010 has been a whirlwind of new activities and new ideas! The Holiday Party was an amazing Holiday feast with a wonderful traditional holiday meal, tablecloths on all tables, and amazingly fabulous centerpieces, created by Club members. It was very festive. We're on the verge of rolling out the Club's website, which will link to the NCC and Dept56 home pages, and which I think will help attract new members. We're having a Picnic in June, and planning a Reunion at the October meeting to celebrate the start of our 20th year. (I think it's like a Chinese Birthday, because in the Chinese culture, a person is age one at birth.) I hope to see lots of "former" members at the reunion; please help us to contact any former members that you are in contact with.. We plan to take lots of pictures of all of us. There will a BIG surprise or two..... An event not to be missed.

All in all, it's been a most eventful and delightful two years. I can't believe that I am still working (almost, but not quite, full time). I'm really looking forward to being able to come to the meetings without a car full of "stuff" and an agenda of things to do and say.

Somehow, I don't think that will happen... because I will miss the camaraderie of the group at the Board meetings. VAA's officers and committee chairs work hard, but we have lots of fun! I urge any and all of you to get involved with Village Addicts in addition to coming to Club meetings. We're a great, but small, group, and welcome all! Being involved with the Club has been an enjoyable part of my life and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I have.



From Judyth Rischall - NCC report

Gathering information:

For more information visit the event website or the NCC Web page at <http://www.ncc56.com> .

September 17 - 19, 2010 - Livonia, Michigan

Join the Country Villagers of Flint, Detroit 56ers and Village Collectors of Michigan as they celebrate the Seasons of Michigan. The host hotel is the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Livonia. Reservations can be made at 888-201-1718 or 734- 464-1300 and be sure to identify yourself as a member of the **Village Collectors Group**. There is a link from their club website for gathering information <http://villagecollectorsofMI.com>.

Two tours will be offered one on Thursday, September 16, 2010 to Frankenmuth and one on Sunday, September 19, 2010 to The Olde World Canterbury Village. The tour form is available on the web site.

The Frankenmuth tour will consist of a full day in Frankenmuth with the first stop at Bronner's Christmas Wonderland, the world's largest Christmas store, where you will spend a couple hours shopping.

Then the bus will transport you to the downtown area to spend the entire afternoon visiting the sites and shops. The cost for the tour is \$25.00.

The second tour to The Olde World Canterbury Village will be a half day tour offering the chance to see Aldridge's Always Christmas store along with 18 other specialty shops. Aldridge's Always Christmas has one of the largest Department 56 collections in the area and has an outstanding village display. The cost for the tour is \$15.00.

September 29 - October 2, 2011 - Litchfield Park, Arizona, near Phoenix

'Happy Trails to Arizona' is being planned by the Arizona Village Collectors, Desert Villagers and the Southwest Villagers. The host hotel is the Wigwam Golf Resort and Spa. Reservations can be made at (623) 935-3811 or (800) 327-0396 and mention 'Happy Trails to Arizona'. The website is www.southwestvillagers.com.

The National Council of 56 Clubs plans a presence at both of these events.



Sunshine report -

Our Condolences to Red Collard on the death of his sister during the last week of March. Love to Red and Carole.

Condolences also to Paula Karr on the death of her soul mate, Steve Vios on March 27th. We send love to Paula.

Ethel Higgins took a bad fall and is recovering from serious back pain at home.

Clarice Walquist continues medications to deal with a blood clot and sends her hello's to all. Note....her scan was good - no sign of any blood clot - YEAH!

Continued good wishes to JoAnn Inouye as she recovers from March 31st knee surgery. We miss you. Alita Rabe continues to recover well from her hip replacement surgery and sends hello's to all.

Please let Peggy Jauregui know of anyone who needs cheering up - 818 763 3096

Become a member of Village Addicts! Tell a friend!
If you're a D56 Collector, Join Us! Call:
Peggy Jauregui at (818) 763 3096 for information
about Membership

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**

For those of you who like jigsaw puzzles - Jan Lauritzen has provided some really neat ones - check out the following two - lots of fun. Any questions contact her at: janicelauritzen@yahoo.com



<http://www.jigsawplanet.com/?m=p&id=386b2424a1342da7>
80 pieces – no rotation

<http://www.jigsawplanet.com/?m=p&id=46197806eb302adc>
80 pieces - no rotation

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Co-Prez – Myrna Richardson 818/781-1616
mrrvaa@pacbell.net

Co-Prez – Kimberly Harmon 818/681-8584
KimberlvsVAA@aol.com

Secretary – Open

Treasurer – Jo Ann Inouye 818/341-6090
roykaz@yahoo.com

Asst Treasurer – Stan Higgins 818/892-510
squekey@verizon.com

Gazette Editor – Pat Harmon 805/581-2632
PatsVAA@aol.com Fax 805/581 0545

New Products – Alita Rabe 562/928-1584
Atilahon1@aol.com

RMcD House – Cora & Frank Smith 818/343-7075
northpoleplanner@socal.rr.com

NCC Rep – Judyth Rischall 818/591-1398
garischall@pobox.com

Tour of Homes – Stan Higgins 818/892-5100
squekey@verizon.com

Historian, Inventory & Storage
Bud Arntzen 818/881-5631

Photographer – David Vaccaro 661/251-9412
davidvaccaro@att.net

Asst. Photographer – Frank Smith 818/343-7075
northpoleplanner@socal.rr.com

Membership/Compassionate Service Peggy
Jauregui 818/763-3096



Goodies to take home from April Meeting



We do love to eat!

REMINDERS...

Our next meeting is a picnic theme -
for those who signed up Peggy will be in touch
next week to jog your memory....
For those who did not sign up please bring a pot-
luck item based on the picnic theme or call Peggy
at 818 763 3096 for suggestions.

Remember to wear your club shirt - **One extra Door
Prize Ticket** given for wearing Club shirt and one extra
Door Prize Ticket for bringing a potluck dish.



Yummy little village houses - thanks Dayleen!
See next page for a close up!

IN MEMORIAM

Steven Vios (1951-2010)

Steve passed away March 27, 2010 peacefully but suddenly with the love of his life, Paula at his side. He was 58. Born in Hawaii to parents, Conrad and Nora, he resided in the city of Torrance, CA for more than 30 years. Everyone knew Steve by his beautiful distinctive voice, wide smile and hearty laugh. He had a passion and a gift for working with anything mechanical. He built and raced drag racing cars at a young age ("The Big Kahuna") and went on to become a master mechanic and professional restorer of classic sports cars for Len Cormier, Vasek Polak, and sports celebrities. He won numerous awards for his restorations and was featured in multiple racing publications. When he elected to put down the tools professionally, Steve's expertise was in great demand and he was retained as the "in house" professional witness for a large auto insurance firm. A gifted craftsman, he excelled not only in auto mechanics, but also engineering and creating anything of beauty with his hands. He constantly had projects underway. Most recently he loved working on home improvement projects always using innovative designs and products to achieve beautiful results. Steve loved people and loved helping people. He would help anybody that called or came by needing help with their projects. He would give them tools and instructions but then would often complete the projects for them. When Paula became interested in collectible Dept. 56 porcelain houses, Steve applied his craftsmanship to that hobby and won numerous display contests, including the national championship. He so much enjoyed visiting and talking with friends, neighbors and anyone he encountered in his daily life. Once you met Steve, you thought you had known him forever. He had a generous spirit and loved to buy presents for friends whenever he saw something he thought they would like or thought that they needed. He also loved to cook and barbeque. We will all miss the teriyaki shish kabob feasts. He was such a special person who spent many years as a caring and nurturing caregiver to Paula's parents. After Paula's parents passed away, Steve devoted himself fully to taking care of Paula. She was his princess and he would do everything in his power to care for her and make her dreams come true. Steve truly lived the life of work hard - play hard, and together with Paula, they spent many years traveling and discovering new and interesting things. Their latest favorite pastime was following NASCAR racing around the country, indulging in their shared love of driving, music and quirky diners. He is survived by his parents, Conrad and Nora; his soul mate, Paula Karr; siblings: Conrad Jr., Cecily, Norward, Stuart and Geoff, along with spouses, nephews and nieces. "Steve will be remembered as a shining example of unselfish generosity and will be loved by all, greatly missed and held in our hearts forever." The memory of his voice and smile will forever lift our souls. Visitation will be held at Rice Mortuary, 5310 Torrance Blvd, Torrance on Tuesday, April 6 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with Rosary at 7:00 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be held at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 1050 W. 163rd St., Gardena, on Wednesday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m., with reception following at Rice Mortuary. Interment will be at Holy Cross Cemetery, Culver City. Please sign the guest book at www.dailybreeze.com/obits. Please go to the mortuary's website, www.LAfuneral.com to send the family messages, share memories, or to obtain directions to the services. Check back to view the online video tribute.



Almost too neat to eat - well almost!



Another great Raffle item - thanks to David Blair!



Our special designer - thanks Cora!

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!



Greetings,

All Village addicts Memberships now expire on May 31st of each year. Renewals are \$28 for singles and \$35 for families per year.

If there should be any changes to your roster information (name - address - phone - email) please include that information and send with your check

To: Peggy Jauregui
12841 Hortense Street
Studio City CA 91604

If you have any questions please call Peggy at:
(818) 763 3096

Many thanks....Myrna, Kimberly, Peggy

We need your help!



We want to start our 20th year off with a bang.

We need help tracking down past members. If you are in contact with members that are no longer in the club, please send us their address to PatsVAA@aol.com or Pat Harmon 2676 Galindo Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93065.

We want to invite all past and present members to help us celebrate our 20th year as a club.

**We will be raffling off the 25th Anniversary Pieces of The Dickens' Village Series.
Raffle Tickets \$35.00 each – Two Tickets per Membership – only 100 tickets sold.**

Abel Beesley Butcher - \$85.00

Bean & Son Smithy Shoppe - \$80.00

Crowntree Inn - \$90.00

Golden Swan Backer - \$85.00

Green Grocer - \$85.00

Jones & Co. Brush & Basket Shop - \$90.00

Village Candle Shop - \$75.00

Signed by artist Neilan Lund

Please watch for more information in upcoming Gazette's.

JUNE MEETING....

Saturday, June 5th - 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...picnic theme!!!

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.."

