

VILLAGE ADDICTS GAZETTE

Meeting Highlights February 5, 2011

White Elephant Sale

Before the start of the White Elephant Sale Meeting, we feasted on pizza, along with Cora's wonderful green salad, Myrna's olives, along with lots of deserts. Lunch was provided by the Club.

While we ate, Alita Rabe and her wonderful team of elves, including Peggy Jauregui, Jan and Ridi Laurentzin, Jeri Little, Cora Smith, Judyth Rischall, Joe Egizi, and special guests Bob and Barbara Gross, set up the merchandise for the White Elephant Sale.

After lunch, past-president Bud Arntzen welcomed us to the Annual White Elephant Sale. He announced that **Cora Smith** and **Barbara (BJ) Addis Allen** had volunteered to act as co-presidents. The Club joined Bud in a rousing welcome to Cora and BJ.

Cora and BJ announced the start of the White Elephant Sale. Members had an hour of fun and frenzied shopping. We shopped 'til we dropped, buying lots of buildings, including some Dept 56, other decorations, books, linens, artificial flowers and wreaths, etc., etc., and so forth. There were lots of interesting and wonderful items to select.

There was a short meeting during the shopping break. Alita Rabe told us about some exciting new Dept 56 releases.

Peggy Jauregui said that Ruthann Fornof continues her miraculous recovery, and that Mary Ann Cossentine is also recovering from a broker arm and an infection in her lungs. We wish both of them a speedy recovery. Treasurer and Door Greeter Stan Higgins was not at the meeting because of a

(very) sore back. Ethel Higgins in continuing to improve and we hope to see her at a meeting soon.

Gazette Editor Pat Harmon announced her plan to retire after publication of the next (March/April) edition. Pat will be missed - she has done a wonderful job for the past two years. Cora and BJ announced "Help Wanted" for a volunteer to act as Gazette editor.

Paula Vaccaro is stepping down as "Meeting Supplier," i.e., the volunteer who brings the beverages, paper products and utensils to every meeting.

Carolyn Ferrito volunteered to bring the beverages and ice, and David & Dayleen Dutcher will bring the paper products and utensils. The Club thanks Paula for keeping us supplied for the past two plus years.

Cora and BJ announced the coming attractions for the April meeting: Dept 56 Rep Lisa Johnson will bring sample products and tell us about the 2011 new releases. New VAA member (and San Diego 56er President) Lauren Murphy will show a CD of the upcoming Dept 56 Gathering - "Happy Trails to Arizona." Cora and BJ also announced that the April meeting will have lots of door and raffle prizes with an Easter - spring theme.

White Elephant Sale Shopping concluded with a 50% off sale of everything that was left on the tables - which was not much. The Club thanks the members for their generous donations to the White Elephant Sale, which made \$547 for the Club!

Helen Lind was the lucky 50/50 drawing winner - Helen won \$106!

Submitted by Myrna R. Richardson, Secretary

FROM THE CO-PRES CORNER

As many of you have already found out that BJ and I have volunteered to be Co-Pres's for the year. We both hope to carry out the fine tradition of past presidents. We want the club to grow, get more involved and bring new ideas for the membership to consider.

Special thanks to Paula Vaccaro for volunteering over the past several years for bringing the plates, napkins, silverware, cups, drinks, ice, etc. to the club meetings. Paula's duties now have been taken over by Dayleen Dutcher who will be bringing the plates, napkins, etc. and Carolyn Ferritto will be bringing the drinks, ice and cups. Thank you ladies for volunteering.

Lastly, very special thanks to Pat Harmon, who is stepping down as our Gazette Editor. We cannot say enough about the wonderful work that she has done getting the Gazette together for the membership and also for putting up with us who have submitted articles at the last minute.

As far as the Gazette is concerned, no need to worry, the club will continue to have a Gazette and the Board members will be filling the Editor position by the time the next Gazette is ready to be sent out.

Cora and BJ

Additional ramblings from BJ:

In case any of you were planning on vacationing this year, I strongly suggest you do it during non-club-meeting weekends. I think we have a pretty good line up coming up. In April we are all going to drool over the upcoming new pieces with Lisa Johnson, the 56 Rep from San Diego. Following that up, we have an inspiring June meeting planned where Myrna and Alita are going to show us fine

points in Water. Then in August we are going to learn how to make really nice Trees with Michelle and Vern Browne. (NOTE THIS MEETING WILL BE IN TARZANA - more later). I think there are Graveyards coming in October, and Fine Detail elements offered by Bud Arntzen and Don Gorden in December. All in all, we should have TERRFIC villages by year's end. I will be even more excited to see the open houses than usual - WOW

On another note, I have to tell you about a FIELD TRIP that Bud Arntzen, Al Acampora, Don Gorden, Brian and I took to Kelly's Boutique. What a hoot! First it rained all the way there and I was correcting Brian's driving until they wanted to throw me out of the car. By the time we arrived, I have to admit Dave Dutcher was right. It IS in the back of a Car Wash. You really have to hunt to find it. BUT IT IS WORTH IT. Their displays are clean, crisp and kept in very nice white cabinets. I wanted one small piece though, that wasn't at the store, it was in their warehouse. So the sales girl asked if we wanted to accompany her there. Well, of course, we said SURE !! NOW THAT is where the action really is. They have 5-6 storage units just next door to the store where there is a TREASURE of older buildings all laid out neatly for our perusal. We could have spent HOURS in the storage units, but the sales girl needed to get back to the store, so ALAS, we were shunted out after only spending maybe a half an hour in there. We could have spent all day, and if someone had ordered pizza we would have called it paradise. Also just so you remember, Cora, Frank, as well as Paula and Dave Vaccaro made the trip last October, and couldn't stop talking about it either!!

I know I plan a return trip for items I am searching for, and I think the rest of the club would beat a path there, if they knew what was in 'storage'. What about a caravan to there and Casual Living after the June

pieces come out? Just thinking out loud here _____]

HOW TO CONTACT US:

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Membership/Compassionate Service

Peggy Jauregui 818/763-3096

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Become a member of Village Addicts! Tell a friend!
If you are a Department 56 Collector, join us!
Call Peggy Jauregui at (818) 763 3096 for
information about Membership!



Welcome New Members....

Joan Thomas who collects:

DV-NE-NP-SV and Disney

Cathy Waters who collects:

NP & SV

SUNSHINE REPORT

Ruthann Fornoff continues her rehab after suffering a heart attack and coma.

"My wife Ruthann M Fornof is home after a 76 Day vacation. 19 days in CCU at Northridge Hospital & Balance at Skilled Nursing Center. She is still in recovery, but her Family are taking care of her. No Visitors Please. Thank you "Dic" Fornof"

MaryAnn Cossentine continues to deal with severe respiratory illness.

Carol Neblett continues having multiple health issues which keep her from being with us.

Arlene Neiberg is in rehab from a broken pelvis. She's also having physical therapy 3 times a week.

To ALL of our members having severe health challenges, we think of you and keep you all in our prayers.

Please remember to bring food items to the meeting. Deposit them in the **YELLOW** Deacon's Barrel for the homeless served by the Hollywood Presbyterian Church.

CASH CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY RED OR CAROL AT THE MEETING AND FOOD ITEMS WILL BE PURCHASED.

Ronald McDonald House

All went well with the take down of the North Pole Village at Ronald McDonald House in January.

Frank and I want to thank everyone that helped with the take down. We could not have done it without you.

Special thanks to Ridi and Jan Lauritzen and Jill Bonino for donations of accessories and trees for the North Pole Village at the Ronald McDonald House.

Again thank you, Cora and Frank

March 7th - from Alita

I just received this message that there will be a Gathering in Chicago in 2012.

WE'RE IN IT TO WIN IT!

The Committee has met and...

CHICAGO GATHERING FALL 2012!



Information from Randy Miller, President of the NCC

Dept. 56/Enesco will be sponsoring the "Collector of the Year" contest. The deadline for entries is March 31st. They request that you send just one digital photo along with a write-up (one hundred words) about your collection by email

to mslittown@department56.com Please include the name, regular mailing address, club name and what Village is represented.

You can nominate yourself, a relative or friend or fellow club member (in case they're too shy to nominate themselves). Department 56/Enesco will post some of the finalists (chosen by their Creative Team) on the Dept. 56/Enesco web site in the COLLECTING SECTION.

The winners of both contests will be announced in Arizona at this year's gathering. See the NCC website for details. Hope to see many of you in Arizona.

Randy

NCC President

The deadline for the Village D'Lights display contest was Monday Feb 28th. Ridi Lauritzen entered the contest for the VAA. The winner will be featured on the cover of the Oct/Nov issue of Village D'Lights and a donation to their charity. All entries will be in a special book issued by Pioneer Communications. Each club that sends an entry will receive 2 NCC accessory pieces from the NCC. For more details please go to the NCC website -www.ncc56.com.

Since VAA paid the NCC dues on time, we received a Pin Traders Shop from the NCC as a Thank you.

"Happy Trails to Arizona"

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 this event.

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

Chris Brosterhous has created a blog to interest D56 collectors:

www.christmasvillagefun@blogspot.com

Some recent posts are: 1. Abington Canal Series: Roadway to the Industrial Revolution
2. Depart 56 Celebrates St. Patrick's Day
3. White Horse Bakery: An Homage to English White Horse Hill Drawings
4. Nantucket: Whaling and the Sea Shanties that Tell the Story--including links to sea shanty music
5. Hi-De-Ho Nightclub and Cab Calloway-- including links to Cab singing on Sesame Street and in a Betty Boop animation!
6. Making Memories with "Crayola Polar Palette Art Center" and "Play-Doh Sculpting Center"

From: Judyth Rischall, NCC Representative



Orphan Accessory Home Myrna Richardson

I have lots of broken accessories or sets of accessories with pieces missing. Sometimes, if it's a favorite, I'll replace the set with a new and complete set. So I have some partial sets and/or sets with broken pieces, which are duplicates of complete sets. I can't bear the thought of throwing these poor deformed persons (pieces) away, so I usually stash them in a "hospital" basket, where they get chipped and dusty over the years.

What if... (drum roll please!)... the Club saved all of our broken and partial sets of accessories for us to use when we make Holiday Centerpieces? It's always nice to have a spare person or two in a centerpiece and it's easy to camouflage the broken part of a single piece in a centerpiece or vignette.

Let's do it! Please bring your poor soul accessories (with or without box, but hopefully wrapped to prevent further breakage) to Bud at any Club Meeting. Bud will store the poor souls during the year. Bud will bring the "hospital" basket of poor abandoned deformed and lonely accessories to the October meeting when the buildings for the Holiday Centerpieces are distributed. The poor soul broken accessories will be available (for no cost) for those of us who create Holiday Centerpieces.

Hi Pat, this isn't an article but just an update on my "recruiting skills". In Dec. I ran across a couple from out of state and they were avid D56 collectors. Sent them our info and NCC info AND copy of Village D-lights. Don't know how that turned out BUT the notary that brought my refi papers over saw my display(vignette) and HE and his wife are also collectors SOOOOOOO I gave them all the info too!!!! Don't know if we will see them in April but I'm quite proud of myself! Hope I can make it Sat. but I do have a previous commitment. Carolyn Ferrito

Note to Membership - keep an extra membership application with you - never know when you'll meet someone☺

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From Bud Arnest

Hi Gang -
I feel the need to explain my thinking about "Happy Trails to Arizona" - This is a Gathering in Arizona for Dept. 56 Collectors much like our "California Gold Gatherings" we have had in the past years. When is it? September 29th to October 2nd 2011. I'm sure there are many club members who would love to go, but for various reasons they can't, including me. As I understand it, only a handful of the V.A.A. membership are going. They are so much fun, lot's to see, do and learn. Not to mention meeting a lot of fun people from out of state who also collect D-56. I do feel it is important for our club to be represented in Arizona, to let others know that the Village Addicts Anonymous of Southern California, one of the first clubs of two maybe three in the United State and that we are well and still very active and are on our 20th year. Why shouldn't we toot our own horn, once in a while - - it is called PRIDE and FAMILY. For those of you who attend, I'm sure you will carry the PRIDE for the rest of us. However, October 1st is our club meeting time and our celebration of our Birthday. There is talk about changing our club meeting date to later in October! We have tried this in past years and it was a disaster. Creating quit a mess and making a few people very unhappy, and also they had no say in this change. We must always think about the V.A.A. membership. Club Presidents, Officers and Board Members must involve the membership when making these changes. If there are just a few going, (in my opinion) it would be best to have the membership vote to change or not to change our meeting date. I believe Barbara Allen is not going to attend, so she can conduct the meeting and perhaps choose another to help her at the podium. The two Co-Presidents with help from others can work out the Agenda well ahead of time for this meeting. Let the club members have their suggestions and say on this matter.

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Picture time...

Pictures from Kelly's Boutique displays. . . .

From David Vaccaro



More from Kelly's Displays



More, More, More from the Holiday Tour of Homes. . . .

From Glenda Biersbach



From Michele & Vern Brown



From Phyllis & Ed Oatman



Spring/Easter Open Houses

On Saturday, May 7, 2011, we will have two Spring/Easter Open Houses.

Myrna Richardson's Easter decorations and Dept 56 Spring Vignettes will be on display from 11:00 - 12:00 - light refreshments will be served.

Claudette Fillet's fabulous Easter decorations will be on display from 12:15 - ??????. A potluck buffet lunch will be served at Claudette's. Peggy Jauregui will contact you about potluck contributions.

RSVPs required. Please RSVP to Claudette before Tuesday, May 3 by email or phone: clo4755@aol.com or 818.990.1045.

Addresses:

Myrna - 6857 Cedros Ave., Van Nuys, 91405 (corner Cedros & Bassett, one block north of Vanowen)

Claudette - 4130 Dixie Canyon Ave., Sherman Oaks, 91423

Hope to see you at our First Spring/Easter Open Houses!

APRIL MEETING...

Saturday, April 2nd - High Noon

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

**POTLUCK LUNCHEON
STARTS AT NOON!
BRING YOUR FAVORITE
DISH!**

*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*

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"We add to your addiction."