



## Department 56<sup>®</sup>

INC. • CONSUMER SERVICES

February 1, 1995

Dear Department 56 Club Newsletter Editors:

Each month I receive an amazing amount of valuable information from your wonderful newsletters. I get club newsletters that run the gamut from one page typewritten photocopies to twenty page computer generated "magazines". All of them are equally impressive in quality and content. And they are all equally important links between the many clubs, collectors and Department 56. They keep me apprised of all the club activities and the services performed; and the amount of both is extremely gratifying. I am proud of you all for maintaining such a high quality product on a volunteer basis to keep your fellow collectors in touch.

I would like you all to know how much I appreciate the great work you are doing-- keeping your club members informed and also entertained. Thank you for that and thank you for including me on your mailing lists. Keep up the good work! My best wishes to you and all your club members for a Happy New Year.

With warmest regards,

*Judith*

Judith Price  
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Sep.11, 1995.

The Second Annual NCC National Convention was held in conjunction with the Bachman's Village Gathering at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, MN

Five thousand collectors were represented by 163 clubs from around the country. Shown on the extreme right is honorary member Jack Skeels wearing his traditional green jacket and applauding with a white program in his hand. Sitting next to him is the diminutive Judith Price, honorary member and Department 56 Representative, almost hidden by Alan Wagner, NCC co-president standing on the left.

The Friday night Parade of Clubs rally was marked by flags, banners, balloons and enthusiastic club members, with the Texas contingent of 11 clubs marching on stage. The Cottage Collectors of Dallas (now the Big D 56ers), with their flag are joined on stage by the River City Villagers of San Antonio and the Crystal City Collectors of Corpus Christi during the Parade of Clubs. NCC Convention theme, "All Roads Lead to the NCC".



From: Ruth C. Buerkle  
Member: Our56Club, Hill Country 56ers, Arctic 56ers



(l) Aug. 1990, The Village News, Vol. 2, Number 2 Bachman's publication for Collectors of Snowhouses. The headline is – *Bachman's First Village Gathering Attracts Thousands of Collectors.*

Members of the Village 56ers, a Denver based collectors' club, at Bachman's Village Gathering Aug 11, 1990, posed with Department 56 representative, Judith Price. (L-r) Dick and Cindy Redhair, Dan and Jan Burnham, Judith Price, Nick and Barbara Bretz.

Judith's view of the roomful of collectors from the podium during her twice daily seminars at the Bachman's Village Gathering Aug, 1990, *The Village News*



Bachman's Village Gathering, Aug, 1995. Judith visiting with Neilan Lund, master architect, originator and creative designer of the Heritage Village collection for Department 56.



## Redwing— Another Village Town

**M**onday morning after the Bachman Gathering we joined a dear friend for a lovely drive to Redwing, about forty five minutes south of Minneapolis to visit the Sprague House.

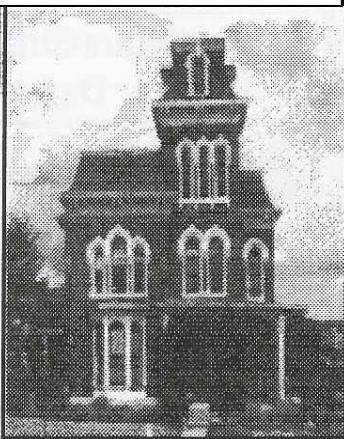
This 1868 classic Second Empire Style home was built by Philander Sprague on West Third Street.

The Sprague House was the model for the Boarding House, one of three porcelain buildings produced by Department 56 in 1987-88 exclusively for Bachman's.

Named the "Home Town Series", they are the Church, the Boarding House and the Bakery.

All three buildings were modeled after real buildings. Several years ago we visited the beautiful little town of Stillwater 45 minutes from Minneapolis on the St Croix river where the model for the Home Town Bakery is on main street. (It is also the model for the Variety Store in "Christmas in the City".)

Later we visited the Church in St. Paul at 868 Sherburne Ave., formerly the Calvary Evangelical Church and in 1995 the Deeper Life



The Sprague House in Redwing, Minn., model for the Boarding House in the "Home Town Series."

Bible Church, which is the model for the Home Town Series Church. The main purpose for the drive to Redwing was to visit the Sprague House, but Redwing is also a sweet little town with lovely old buildings, great shopping, and the delightful, old St. James Hotel — with its excellent restaurant where we lunched.

It was a leisurely, beautiful drive returning on the Wisconsin side of time we were deposited at our hotel. Wonderful day!



Dec.14, 2002 Judith Price outside Forepaugh's Restaurant following dinner with Department 56 Holiday Tour.  
Photo by Chuck Boyle



Dec.13, 2002 One Village Place, Eden Prairie, MN. (l-r) Melinda Seegers, Judith Price, Jackie Geiger following dinner at the Showroom, during Department 56 Holiday Tour.  
Photo by Chuck





Sept 11, 1993 Jeanne Marie Dickens and Judith Price on the stage at Bachman's Village Gathering.



August 11, 1990 Bachman's First Village Gathering. Grace Williamson and Judith Price



Judith and Four Years  
 At Bachman's Village  
 Gathering  
 1990-1991-1992-1993

Sept 8, 1991 Judith Price at Bachman's Village Gathering



Aug 22, 1992 Judith at Bachman's Village Gathering.



Dec. 13, 2002 Dinner at One Village place Showroom, Department 56 Holiday Tour. Center (l-r) Judith Price, Mary Boyle. (back l-r) daughter, Georgia Harry, D56 artist, Jackie Geiger, Grace Williamson, Ruth Buerkle





May 18,  
2001.  
Rocky  
Mountain  
Gathering.  
Foreground  
D56 display  
table. (l-r)  
Grace  
Williamson,  
Judith Price,  
Jan Cooke.



Oct. 12, 2003. California Gold Gathering outside San Francisco. Judith Price at the podium for farewell breakfast Sunday morning.





California Gold Gathering, June 2000.  
Francisco and Jessica



Rocky mountain Gathering, May 18, 2001  
(l-r) Peggy Culler-Hair, Melinda Seegers,  
Ethel Campbell, Judith Price and Jan  
Cooke



MAVG - March 2003, hotel dining room, lunch  
(l-r) D56 decorator, Grace Williamson, Judith  
Price, Ruth Buerkle, Melinda Seegers

Department 56 Holiday Tour, Dec 14, 2002.  
Dinner at Forepaugh's (l-r) Ruth Buerkle,  
Barbara and Keith Gulley, Joyce and Paul  
Anderson, and Judith Price.

