

# THE VILLAGE CRIER

Newsletter of the

## ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 6

DECEMBER - JANUARY, 1997

### MEMBERS MEETING JANUARY 14, 1997

The next meeting of The Annapolis Villagers will be 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 1997. The meeting will be held at The American Legion, Post 175, Severna Park, MD. Directions to the meeting are on page 9.

After the business meeting, John and Pat Ehrenreich have invited the members to their home in Manhattan Beach for refreshments and a tour of their displays.

cannot attend the meeting but would like to do the House Tours, contact Dean Stevenson for directions.

Light refreshments will be served on the Tour. To help defray expenses for the participants, we are asking members to contribute a dessert. While it is not required to bring a dessert to participate, your dessert contributions will be appreciated. Dean Stevenson will coordinate the refreshments. Please see Dean at the January meeting or call (410)923-2735 by January 17 if you would like to contribute a dessert.

### 1997 HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 1997



Dean Stevenson, 1997 House Tour Coordinator, has put together an exciting holiday tour for us. We want to thank all the Villager's who graciously have invited us to tour their homes on Saturday, January 25, 1996.

*D56 Trivia: All collectors of D56 lighted house know about the light hole in the rear of the houses that make displaying a challenge. Well the Ramsford Palace has 3 lights, 1 in the back and 2 from the bottom. What other Heritage Village house does not have the light hole in the back? Answer on Page 9*

| 2 P.M. to 5 P.M.  | 7 P.M. to 10 P.M.   |
|---|---|
| Norma Damico<br>1868 East Queens Court<br>Crofton, MD 21114<br>Phone: (410) 721-3310      | Sheryl and Tom Dale<br>12300 Lanham Severn Road<br>Bowie, MD 20720<br>Phone: (301) 262-8982             |
| Lynne and Bill Murphy<br>876 Shore Acres Road<br>Arnold MD 21012<br>Phone: (410) 757-4582 | Carol and Bob Emory<br>506 Duvall Lane<br>Annapolis MD 21403<br>Phone: 268-1526                         |
| Shellie Seyer<br>7783 Poplar Grove Road<br>Severn MD 21144<br>Phone: 969-5588             | <b>YOU MAY CHOOSE TO VISIT ANY OR ALL THE HOUSES BUT PLEASE VISIT ONLY DURING THE DESIGNATED TIMES.</b> |

### SPRING BREAK

Winter is hardly upon us but we are already planning a Spring Break. The Golden Goose in Occoquan, Virginia sponsors classes by Carl & Rita Carter, who use wax to create water displays. If you attended PA 5-6000, you may have seen their imaginative items at the Show & Sell.

We have made arrangements for two classes only for *Villagers* on Saturday, April 12, 1997. Both sessions are the same and are on "Ponds and Streams" with emphasis on production of a pond and a stream which you will take home. The morning session starts at 9:00 AM and ends at Noon. The afternoon session starts at 1:00 PM and ends at 4:00 PM. The class cost is \$25.00 per person and basic supplies are provided. Payment will not be due until the March meeting, but reserve your spot in either class **now** since class size is **very limited**.

(Continue on page 2)

Directions will be available at our January meeting. If you

*The Villager Crier* is published bi-monthly and is the official newsletter of *The Annapolis Villagers*, collectors of Department 56<sup>®</sup>, Inc. lighted houses and other products. We are not affiliated with Department 56<sup>®</sup>, Inc. Opinions expressed are solely those of the authors. Any reproduction in whole or in part without express permission of *The Annapolis Villagers* is prohibited. Membership is \$10 per person per year or \$15 for two people in the same household sharing membership. For more information or to become a member, contact *The Annapolis Villagers*, P.O. Box 2083, Annapolis MD 21404.

**OFFICERS &  
COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**President:** Bill Murphy  
(410)757-4582  
**Vice President:** John Ehrenreich  
(410)647-1680  
JonAE@AOL.COM  
**Treasurer:** Peter Baer  
(410)867-0086  
Peter.Baer@mail.house.gov  
**Secretary:** Judy Picciotto  
(410)757-6022  
**Membership:** Pat Fisher  
(410)268-8178  
**Past President:** Sharri Ogle  
(410)268-5069  
**By Laws:** Kate Eustice  
(301)552-1858  
**Communications:** Pat Ehrenreich  
(410)647-1680  
NEWS56@AOL.COM  
**Finance:** Ruth Baldwin  
(410)923-3239  
**Hospitality:** Dean Stevenson  
(410)923-2755  
**NCC Rep:** Bob Keefer  
(410)987-1179  
**NCC Rep:** Gerry Zimmer  
(410)239-1124  
**Promotions:** Bernice Smith  
(410)268-7158  
**Telephone Tree:** Jeannette Grebowski  
(301)464-2357  
**Ways & Means:** John Dietz  
(410)757-1136  
**Wish List:** Jeanette Grebowski  
(301)464-2357

*THE PRES SAYS.....*

Once again, we are approaching that special time of year referred to as "the holidays." Everyone is busy preparing to make this a memorable time for their family and friends. Dean Stevenson has done a great job coordinating the 1997 Villager House Tours. From past experience, we know that our members who participated in the house tours put a lot of time into opening their homes for the tours. You can show your appreciation by visiting the homes on the tour this year.

Recently, I presented the Annapolis Villagers' yearly donation to the American Legion, Post 175, Manhattan Beach. Harry Grover, Commander, gratefully accepted the donation on behalf of the post. At the November meeting, members brought canned goods for the Salvation Army's Thanksgiving Food Drive. Some members also donated cash in lieu of canned goods. After the meeting, Lynne and I purchased additional canned goods with the \$21 collected. We delivered five bags of groceries, on behalf of the Villagers, to the Glen Burnie Salvation Army. Captain Shingleton was very appreciative of the Villagers' donation.

Club Pins have been ordered and we expect to receive them in early 1997. A special pin was ordered for the Villager's charter members who are still members as of November 11, 1996. I believe all members will be pleased with the finished product. Now I'll look into the possibility of shirts with our club logo that members have requested. Hopefully, I can have definitive information by our January meeting.

It is difficult not to reflect on what a memorable year the Annapolis Villagers had. It would be hard to pick one activity over another as a highlight. I believe the membership has grown as a direct result of our hectic schedule. People look forward to interesting meetings, social activities and events. I believe we were all shocked to have over 60 people in attendance at our November meeting. I assure you we are striving to keep the meetings enjoyable as well as informative.

In closing, Lynne and I wish each of you a joyous, happy holiday season and a good health in the coming year.



*Bill Murphy*

**NOVEMBER MEETING**

**SPRING BREAK** (continued)

The Golden Goose is located in historic Occoquan about an hour drive, just below Lorton, Virginia on I-95. They have a very interesting room of accessories (many non D56) to complement your village. While not in class, you can check out the Golden Goose or stroll Mill Street, which has many little shops and at least three D56 dealers. This is a good opportunity to spend a fun filled and relaxing spring day with fellow villagers. To reserve your space or for more information, contact John Ehrenreich, (410)647-1680 or email JonAE@AOL.COM

The Villagers had a lively and informative meeting in November. Winners of the Retirement Contest were announced, the Bus Tour Raffle was held and the Centerpiece Contest was judged. (See related articles).

John Ehrenreich provided many, easy display ideas including how to make brick and stone roads and walls, build mountains and use clear latex caulking to create "water".

Kate Eustice assumed the chairmanship of the By Laws Committee. Gerry Zimmer was elected to fill the position of NCC representative, vacated by John Ehrenreich

An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to research and present a charity that the club will make donations to in 1997.

## HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

November 7-11, 1996 was a busy time for dealers and collectors. Members of the Villagers were at many of our local dealers meeting, greeting and assisting collectors. We want to thank all of dealers for inviting us and our members who took the time to volunteer at *Home For the Holidays* events. As a result, we are welcoming several new members.

## OUT WITH THE OLD...

### ...IN WITH THE NEW!

Even before November 8, D56 had some surprises in store for collectors. Right after we published the last edition of the *Crier*, we learned that D56 had quietly discontinued the entire *Upstairs Downstairs Bears Series*. We learned that the bears were not included in the November 8 retirement listing from Dept.56 because they were a licensed line.

## RETIREMENT DAY--NOVEMBER 8, 1996

Snow Village headed the list with the most retirements but each village was represented. For the first time, not all the items in a set were retired. Originally, sets of houses had one D56 item number. Last year, D56 renumbered the individual houses within each set. For example, NP *Post Office* did not retire while the 3 other lit pieces in the set, O L E, did retire. Similarly, in Alpine, only three of the original five shops were retired. Sometimes it is more surprising what is not retired than what is retired. If anyone did not get a list of the retired pieces announced in *USA Today*, they are available at D56's Internet web site at [www.department56.com](http://www.department56.com) or through your dealer.

## !MORE RETIREMENTS!

Following D56's major advertisement of retirements in *USA Today*, they also announced other non-porcelain retirements. All of the items, save for one are trees. The surprise was the retirement of the animated *All Around the Park*. A copy of the list should be available at your dealer or the D56 web site.

## WHAT'S NEW!

Once collectors got past the retirements, they began to notice a few other things in D56's November 8 *USA Today* advertisement. Right before our eyes, in plain sight, were two "mystery" lit houses. Upon closer examination, we found the ad contained pictures of NP *Rt.1, Home for Mr. and Mrs. Claus* and SV *Ski Lodge*. Collectors had some immediate questions--

how soon will these two lit pieces be available in 1997 and will they be smoking? Soon, the D56 *Quarterly* arrived with more hints to whet our appetites. Some collectors even got out magnifying glasses to search for new pieces. There was speculation about a limited edition for NP in 1997, but others speculated that we would see a limited edition for Snow Village (1997 is the 20th anniversary of Snow Village).

Our speculations are over. The new introductions were found at the D56 Internet Web Site on December 4. You will find a list of all the new releases on page 10. Start saving now because the new introductions are beautiful and better than ever. And, yes, it looks like there will be more smoke in the Villages. We hope to have pictures at the January 14 meeting.

One of the most exciting new introductions is the animated accessory track. You can put a display in the center and accessories such as the carriages will "move" and "ride" around the track. It is our understanding that current accessories can be used with the track as long as they are not too large to make the turns in the oval track.

For Snow Village, everyone will be talking about the *Harley Davidson Shop* and accessories. Even if you are not into motorcycles, it will be hard not to enjoy the shop or the accessories. *Rosita's Cantina* looks like a great place to eat. SV children will have a new high school. While no limited edition for SV was announced, all eyes will be on the skiers as they swiftly make their way down the mountain back to the SV *Ski Lodge*. Alpine and NP collectors will want the lift and mountain for their villages, too. For DV, the production of 42,500 *Charles Dickens' Reading of a Christmas Carol* hopefully means that it will not be too difficult to obtain this Limited Edition Accessory. Alpine had only one introduction but the *Danube Music Emporium* is lyrical. The DV Brownstone's are beautiful and it would not be surprising if they found their way into some CIC collections. Instead of an Inn, Gad's Hill, the last home of Charles Dickens, is the 1997 Signature Series introduction.

*Grand Central Station* for CIC is just that. More of the size of *Hollydale's*, instead of DV's *Victoria Station*, it is just as stately. NEV only had three introductions but all add to the charm of the village. For those who like the waterfront look in NEV, *Navigational Charts* will be a sea-worthy addition.

NP collectors who do not have a Workshop will be pleased with *Rt. 1, Home of Mr and Mrs. Claus*. You better be good for goodness sakes because your name is in NP's *Hall of Records!* The new bread bakery has an appealing "S" curved roof line. With the 5 bakers accessory, you can just conjure up the aroma of fresh baked bread.

(Continue on Page 4)

## NEW RELEASES...CONTINUED

Snowbaby collectors have lots to choose from. *It's a Grand Old Flag* offers an innocent yet powerful tribute to patriotism. *Joy to the World* is beautiful and *There is No Place Like Home* is downright cute. Even non collectors should be attracted to the Snowbaby gift giving opportunities such as the *You Will Always be my Snowbaby Picture Frame* and *Baby's 1st Rattle*..

## DEPARTMENT 56 INTRODUCES STORYBOOK VILLAGE

How many readers of the D56 Quarterly guessed that one of the sneak peaks to the 1997 introductions was for a brand new village? Many of us who saw the picture with the tiny shoes speculated that there would be a cobbler in one of the villages, perhaps a NP Elves Shoemaker. Amid all the hoopla of the introductions, Department 56 introduced *Storybook Village*.

The new village was not included in the announcement of new releases because it isn't part of either Heritage or Snow Village. It is in their gift ware line. According to D56 Consumer Services, *Storybook Village* and accessories will be made of resin with the fine detail that D56 is famous for. And, yes there will be snow in *Storybook Village*! For 1997, there will be five introductions. Each *Storybook Village* set is based on a popular fairy tale. Priced at \$95, the introductions will be packaged and purchased as a set containing a lit house and associated accessories. Watch for *Storybook Village* at your dealers!

. The 1997 Storybook Village introductions are:

- Old Woman, Cobbler* (the sneak peak in the Quarterly)
- Peter Piper Pickles and Peppers*
- Goldilocks Bed and Breakfast*
- Lambsville School*
- Hickory, Dickory Dock*

## RETIREMENT CONTEST WINNERS



We want to thank all of the members who participated in our *Guess the Department 56 Retirements*. We had the most entries ever with 22 participants. Each of the winners received a retired D56 item. With a tie for 2nd place, 2nd place was determined by who had the higher percentage correct.

- 1st Place: Bill Murphy
- 2nd Place: Lynne Murphy
- 3rd Place: John Ehrenreich

## CENTERPIECE CONTEST

Our Centerpiece Contest in November was a great show of the creativity of our members. Thirteen members participated with an array of fourteen beautiful centerpieces.

- 1st Prize: Janice and Jerry Zimmer / Snowbabies
- 2nd Prize: Bernice and Don Smith / NP Popcorn and Cranberry House
- 3rd Prize: Norma Damico / Dickens Village Display

In addition to the winners, many thanks and kudos for a job well done to all of the other entrants:

- \* Jeanette Grebowsky
- \* Carole Dietz
- \* David and Peggy Perry
- \* Trudi and Pete Baer
- \* Ruth Baldwin
- \* Norma Damico (second display)
- \* Pat Fisher
- \* Helen Kane
- \* Kate Eustice
- \* John Ehrenreich
- \* Pat Ehrenreich

### PERSONNEL

Well, I said, "Let me see if I understand you correctly: You want to set up direct deposit of your pay check to your Department 56 dealer???"



## WELCOME!

Here we GROW again. This month, the Villagers welcome new members:

- John & Klarissa Blatney of Glen Burnie
- John & Brenda Blatney of Annapolis
- Sue & Ted Brayman of Severna Park
- Joseph & Patricia Bruce of Annapolis
- Beverly Clemons of Glen Burnie
- Sheryl & Tom Dale of Bowie
- Carole & Kelli Gilbert of Arnold
- Tanina Gordar of Bowie
- Chilton Hoffman of Baltimore
- Theresa Jamar and Tom Jamar of Crownsville
- Denise & Dave Jones of Severna Park
- Tracie Kidwell of Arnold
- Shelly Orzechowski of Columbia
- Edward & Miriam Laird of Crofton
- Thomas & Angie Smail of Annapolis
- Chip & Joyce Snyder of Millersville
- Penny Waller of Stevensville

## AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER....

### The 1996 Dickens' Bus Trip

By: *Trudi Baer*

On Saturday, December 7, thirty-eight Annapolis Villagers, friends and new faces gathered at the American Legion in Severna Park for coffee and sweet buns before embarking on a fun-filled day in Amish Country, Pennsylvania.



Upon boarding the bus, everyone received a goodie bag filled with dealer information, gift certificates, coupons and other gifts. Shortly thereafter, we were on way to the Park & Ride to pick up five more members. It did not take long for the fun to begin and continue all the way to Pennsylvania. Tickets were sold at the bargain price of 6 for a dollar on four prizes (two of them retired houses) all donated by our wonderful dealers. Drawings for door prizes began and every person on the bus won a door prize before we arrived at our first stop.

The first stop on our journey to the heart of Pennsylvania Dutch Country was the Mount Hope Estate and Winery in Cornwall, PA, formerly the estate of colonial ironmaster Henry Bates Grubb. We were treated to the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire's presentation of *A Charles Dickens Victorian Christmas*. We moved freely from room to room in the mansion enjoying stories, readings, skits and parlor games--some of which involved audience participation.

Between room visits we joined the festivities in the wine tasting room to sample a variety of delightful wines (and grape juice) produced at the winery. During our visit, we were entertained by members of the Renaissance players portraying Charles Dickens and his famous characters Scrooge, Fezziwig and the Ghosts from *A Christmas Carol*, as well as Annie Oakley, Wild Bill Hickock, Miss Jane Austen, P. T. Barnum, Lewis Carroll and Sir Richard Burton to name a few. Our visit to the mansion ended with caroling by members of the troupe. Upon exiting the mansion through the Mount Hope Winery Gift Shop, many of us purchased bottles of wine as gifts or for our own enjoyment. Pete and I purchased several bottles of wine and a gift basket. I do not know how others on the bus rated the wines but the ones tasted by Peter and I were very nice. I am not a drinker or a wine connoisseur, but I did enjoy the wines we sipped.

We departed the winery for a short bus trip to Smoketown, PA where we had early dinner reservations at the Pennsylvania Dutch Style Restaurant, *Good-N-Plenty*. We dined on fried chicken, roast beef, a variety of vegetable, noodles, homemade breads, pies and to top that off homemade ice cream. I am almost positive that no one

walked away from the table with hunger pains. I can venture to say that most of us could hardly walk at all after such a filling meal. What a surprise I had while we were in the restaurant. I wandered over to the other side of the building and ran into members, Bob and Carol Emory (the winners of the bus trip ticket raffle.) They were unable to go with us on the bus trip due to a previous planned weekend trip in the Lancaster area. (Ed. Note: *Chip & Joyce Snyder happily purchased the tickets from the Emorys' at the meeting.*)

We again boarded the bus for a half hour ride to our next stop, a beautiful colonial mansion, now known as *Christmas Tree Hill*. This magnificent Christmas shop is located in Mt. Zion, PA. Everyone seemed excited to depart the bus for an hour or so to stretch their legs and wander through three floors, enjoying the wonderful sights and smells of this breathtaking shop. Items purchased by our group included ornaments, cards, gifts, even D56 houses and accessories. Our group was treated to a special drawing for a retired D56 Disney lit piece donated by *Christmas Tree Hill*.

We were all happy but tired when we boarded the bus for our trip home. Bernice Smith surprised us with another round of door prizes while we enjoyed ice cold beverages and snacks on the ride home.. The bus erupted in a roar of applause and shouts of "job well done" for Bernice and her "Prize Patrol" for the endless hours of visiting dealers and collecting door prizes. Even our bus driver, Butch, received a round of applause and a Mid Atlantic Village Gathering hat for not getting lost on our journey from one stop to another and another in less than ideal weather conditions.

All in all, I would like to say we all walked away (in some cases dragging our behinds) very tired but happy "Villagers." Thanks to John Ehrenreich for a great fun filled day. Kudos to all who helped make this a delightful trip in spite of cold and rainy weather.

Let's see how we can top this trip with another Villager excursion! Any ideas????

//////////

## **NEW GREENBOOK GUIDE FOR SNOWBABIES DELAYED**

We have received information that the publishers of The Greenbook Guide to Department 56 Collectibles (non Villages), have delayed printing of the latest edition to include 1996 Snowbaby retirements and 1997 new issues. Look for it in 1997.

## ***MEMBERSHIP REWARD.... RECEIVE A 10 TO 20% DISCOUNT***

Collecting villages can be very expensive. Displaying them is fun but adds to the cost. Well, here is an opportunity for members of the *Villagers* to save some money while creating a beautiful display. **Dad & Sons Discount Hobbies** in Glen Burnie has offered all members of the Annapolis Villagers a 10 to 20% discount on all purchases. Show your membership card or name badge and tell them you are a member of the *Annapolis Villagers* to receive your discount.

Dad and Sons' main stock in trade is model railroading but they carry many other hobby items and tools. This was the shop that special ordered the X-acto solder iron / hot knife shown at the last meeting. You will find Dad & Sons Discount Hobbies at 205 Thelma Avenue, Glen Burnie, phone (410)761-7810. They are a small shop but provide personal service and are willing to special order items for you.

## ***NEWS ABOUT DEPARTMENT 56... BAZINET STEPS DOWN ... ENGEL STEPS UP***

On November 13, 1996, Department 56 announced that CEO Ed Bazinet stepped down from his position and he named Susan Engel to replace him as the new CEO. In addition to the company's press release, Mr. Bazinet sent each D56 club a letter. It was Mr. Bazinet who came up with the idea for lit Christmas houses twenty years ago while working in Bachman's Department 56. He will remain Chairman of the Board and his business efforts will now be focused on D56's trim, giftware and table top lines. Ms. Engel came to D56 two years ago. Mr. Bazinet expressed his confidence in her ability to continue to carry the company forward. We wish Mr. Bazinet and Ms. Engel well in their new endeavors at Department 56.

## **DEPARTMENT 56 LIT HOUSES SOLD ON QVC**

It has been rumored for some time now that Department 56 would have product available for sale on the QVC home shopping channel. On December 4, Department 56 was sold on QVC and 2000 products sold out in 30 minutes!

A great debate is already raging among collectors and dealers as to the effect of sales on QVC. Many collectors and dealers are incensed that D56 would sell lit houses on QVC and feel very strongly that it will have a negative effect on the value.

On the other side, are those who feel that selling D56 on QVC will attract many new collectors. They point to collectibles, such as Boyd's Bears and Thomas Kincaide whose collectibility and sales increased after limited QVC offerings.

According to D56 Consumer Services, D56 reached over 60

million people--potential customers---within 30 minutes. Positive comments have far exceeded the number of negative comments received. They are receiving many calls from QVC viewers who told them that they did not know D56 existed before the show and they wanted to know where dealers were located. Rumors are already flying that D56 will be on QVC again. When we asked D56 Consumer Services, we were told no plans have been announced. So, we will just have to wait and see.....

## ***WILLIAMSBURG GATHERING MARCH 14, 15 & 16 1997***

For hotel accommodations, call 1-800-261-9530, ask for Group Reservations for *The Mid-Atlantic Village Gathering*. Do not forget to mention you are a member of The Annapolis Villagers.

For tickets to the Gathering events, seminars or information, contact Warren and Brenda Montgomery, (757) 867-9710, nights and weekends or email [tfcx26a@prodigy.com](mailto:tfcx26a@prodigy.com)

## ***ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS MAKE WILLIAMSBURG GATHERING RAFFLE DISPLAYS***

As one of the members of The Mid Atlantic Gathering, Inc at Williamsburg, the Annapolis Villagers will be making displays to be raffled at the Gathering. We have a choice of two of the following three villages: North Pole, New England Village, and Snow Village. The Gathering group is making \$200 available to create each display. If you would like to do a display, or work with other members of our club to make a display, please contact Bill Murphy, (410) 757-4582.

## **A GIFT TO CHARITY**

As mentioned in the November meeting highlights, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed to research and present a recommendation to the club of one or more charities that we will support in 1997. We have supported various charities in the past and will continue to do so in the future. The purpose of the committee is to identify worthy recipients in advance and provide some order as to how recipient organizations will be selected. Committee members are Ruth Baldwin, Carole Dietz, Trudi Baer and Bernice Smith. If you would like to suggest a charity, please contact one of the committee members and provide a brief description of the organization you would like the club to support.

# THIS OLDE VILLAGE

by Bob Villager

**Smoking Cottages Update.....**Some collectors are experiencing problems with oil leakage in the new smoking cottages--the Cratchit home and Smoky Mountain Retreat. According to D56's Consumer Services, the instructions that come with the cottages are not clear. While the instructions state up to ½ bottle of the liquid smoke may be used, D56 says that, from experience, using this amount is too much. D56 recommends using no more than a couple of drops and your

cottage will smoke for several hours. This should also resolve the problem with leakage.

**Another inexpensive alternative display idea...**Many dealers sold out of D56's new flexible sisal hedge soon after they received it. Its a great item that really enhances your villages. Here is how to make your own sisal hedge at a fraction of the price. Buy sisal wreath ornaments between \$1 and \$2, depending on size. Using a wire cutter, cut the wreath open and stretch it out. On one side, use a scissor to trim the sisal flat and place in your village display.

## PRIZES, PRIZES AND... MORE PRIZES!

| WINNER   | PRIZE   | CONTRIBUTOR   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>NOVEMBER MEMBERS' MEETING</b>   |   |   |
| Chip Snyder  | Centerpiece with D56 ornament                               | Annapolis Villagers   |
| Karen Shifflett  | Cookie Plate  | Christmas Goose, Queenstown   |
| Shellie Seyer  | Plush snowbaby angel doll (non D56)                         | Remembering You, Annapolis Mall   |
| Bernice Smith  | 1996 Event Piece, Christmas Bells                           | Country Cottage, Severna Park   |
| Judy Picciotto   | 1996 Event Piece, Christmas Bells                           | Banner Hallmark, Annapolis Mall   |
| Kate Eustice   | Candles, candle holder and snuffer                          | Christmas Goose, Queenstown   |
| Bob Keefer   | D56 Spotlights  | John Dietz, member  |
| <b>RAFFLE AT NOVEMBER MEETING</b>  |   |   |
| Peter Baer   | Three Foot decorated Toy Soldier                            | Made by member, Helen Kane  |
| <b>RETIREMENT CONTEST</b>  |   |   |
| Bill Murphy  | 1st Place: NEV retired Town Hall                            | Golden Goose, Occoquan, VA  |
| Lynne Murphy   | 2nd Place: DV retired David Copperfield characters          | Main Street Corner Shop, Laurel   |
| John Ehrenreich  | 3rd: Place: Merry Maker, retired Barnaby                    | Annapolis Villagers   |
| <b>CENTER PIECE DISPLAY CONTEST</b>  |   |   |
| Gerry & Janice Zimmer  | 1st Place: HV Clock and Sisal Fence                         | Christmas Goose, Queenstown   |
| Bernice & Don Smith  | 2nd Place: Gift Basket: Snow<br>SV lights<br>D56 Spotlights | Remembering You, Annapolis Mall<br>Golden Goose, Occoquan VA<br>Christmas Goose, Queenstown |
| Norma Damico   | 3rd Place: \$15 Gift Certificate                            | Annapolis Villagers   |
| <b>RAFFLE FOR TWO TICKETS FOR DECEMBER 7 BUS TRIP</b>  |   |   |
| Carol Emory  | Two Tickets for December 7 Bus Trip (\$90 Value)            | Annapolis Villagers   |
| <p><b>We would like to thank Bernice Smith and her committee for gathering prizes from dealers and members who donated prizes as well. We also encourage winners and members to patronize the dealers who support our club with contributions of door prizes, contest and raffle prizes. When visiting, let dealers know you are a member of <i>The Annapolis Villagers</i>.</b></p> |   |   |



# The Bus Trip

As mentioned in Trudi Baer's commentary on the Bus Trip, everyone received a goodie bag. Thanks to Banner Hallmark for the bags. We filled them to the brim with items including gift certificates, *Homes For The Holidays* pins, dealer flyers, coupons, wrapping paper, ribbon and a list of the D56 1997 introductions.

We want to thank the following dealers who gave gift certificates, donated items and/or flyers for each goodie bag:

--Gift Certificates:

- Calico Mouse
- Country Cottage
- Carrie's Collectibles
- The Touch

--Numerous Gift items/Coupons:

- Bay Hills Cards and Gifts
- Christmas Spirit
- Banner Hallmark
- Remembering You
- Carrie's Collectibles
- Annapolis Villagers

--Dealer Flyers:

- Bay Hills Cards and Gifts
- Main St. Corner Shop
- The Christmas Goose
- The Penn Den
- Golden Goose
- Valley View Farms

Thanks to the club and the generosity of our supporting dealers, we had drawings for door prizes so that everyone on the bus trip won two or more door prizes.

Door prizes included D56, non D56 merchandise and more gift certificates from the following:

- Annapolis Villagers
- Christmas Spirit
- Banner's Hallmark
- Pat's Hallmark
- Bay Hills Accents
- The Penn Den
- Bay Hills Cards and Gifts
- Remembering You
- Christmas Goose
- Stadler's Nursery

We would also like to thank Lynne Murphy who made several Villager Silhouette Pins and Carole Dietz for the Candle that were given away in the door prize drawings.

Thanks to the dealers who donated items for our Bus Trip Raffle:

- Stadler's Nursery
- CIC Doctor's Office (retired)
- Upstairs / Downstairs Bear (retired)
- Remembering You
- Snowbaby Doll (non D56)
- Banner Hallmark
- Sir John Falstaff Inn (retired)

Thanks for the free drawing during our visit::

- Christmas Tree Hill
- Mickey's Christmas Carol (retired)

We would also like to thank the following businesses or companies for the fine services they provided to the Villagers for the bus trip:

American Legion, Post 175, Manhattan Beach  
Chesapeake Charter Company/John Lonegran, Jr.  
Bay Hills Deli/Herb Chaney

The Villagers appreciate all the merchants who supported our bus trip. Well over \$1500 in donated prizes were given away on the bus trip. We are truly fortunate to have such generous support. Once again, all we ask is that whenever you do patronize a business or service, let them know you are an Annapolis Villager.

Last but not least, thanks to all of the members who helped with the bus trip, bus ticket raffle, prizes, refreshments, etc.

## ***THE ANNAPOLIS VILLAGER'S WISH LIST***

Are you looking for that one retired lighted house that eluded you? Perhaps your village has grown to the point that the only way you can add that one new house that is a *must have* is to sell one of your existing pieces. Well, if either of these situations describes you, the Villagers may be able to help. If you are looking for a particular item, or have an item to sell or trade, you can contact Jeannette Grebowsky and let her know of your wish. She also maintains a list of pieces that are "For Sale / Trade" from club members. Jeannette will put you in contact with the perspective buyer or seller. ***Annapolis Villagers*** are not involved in the transaction. It is up to the individuals to strike their own bargain. You can contact Jeannette at (301)552-2910.

Club members have the following D56 items for sale or trade:

### **Dickens Village**

CANDLE SHOP (nb) WALPOLE TAILORS  
BOARDING & LODGING SCHOOL #18

### **New England Village**

CRAGGY COVE L/H ICHABOD CRANE'S COTTAGE

### **Alpine Village**

BAHNHOF BACHMAN'S SQUASH CART

### **Snowbabies**

CAN I OPEN IT NOW

### **Trade wanted**

Your Brick Abbey for DV Postern, Gate House, Dedlock, Pied Bull, Sir John Falstaff

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

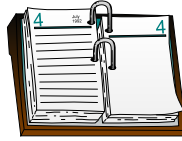
...Bill and Lynne Murphy on the recent birth of their grand daughter, Hannah Noel Murphy



## CLUB BADGES ARE AVAILABLE

Club badges are available for all members. The green and white badges contain the club name, logo and your name. The badges, made by a local company for the Villagers, are available at \$3.25 each. Wearing the badges to Villager meetings and functions, helps everyone to get to know each other. Wearing it to Swap & Sells and Gatherings identifies you as a proud member of *The Annapolis Villagers*. If you would like a club badge, call Bill Murphy at (410)757-4582.

## CALENDAR



*Let us know about dealer events, swap & sells and open houses, etc and we will list them here.*

- Jan. 14** *Annapolis Villagers Members Meeting*, 7:00 PM. Refreshments and village tour at John & Pat Ehrenreich's home to follow..
- Feb. 11** *Annapolis Villagers Board Meeting*, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 9** *Russ Country Gardens Spring Swap and Sell* Taylorsville MD 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at Winfield Fire Hall. Call 1-800-875-2385 for more information and table rental.
- Mar. 11** *Annapolis Villagers Members Meeting*, 7:00 P.M. Wine & Cheese tasting to follow business meeting.
- Mar. 14 - 16** *Mid Atlantic Village Gathering*, Williamsburg, VA, call 1-800-261-9530 for reservations and Warren and Brenda Montgomery, 1-757 867-9710 evenings and weekends for information and event tickets.
- Apr. 8** *Annapolis Villagers Board Meeting*, 7:00 p.m.
- Apr. 12** *Making Pond & Streams class*. Special class sessions at Golden Goose in Occoquan, VA. \$25.00 class fee. Contact John Ehrenreich for details. (410)647-1680, JonAE@AOL.COM
- May 13** *Annapolis Villagers Members Meeting*, 7:00 P.M.

**IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER**...If there is inclement weather on the date of a Villagers meeting, house tour or other club function, we will follow the schools. When schools are closed, we will postpone our activities. Members will be notified of the change. In some cases, it may be necessary to cancel but we will make every effort to reschedule.

## DIRECTIONS TO MEETINGS AMERICAN LEGION POST 175



From Rt. 50, take Rt. 2 North Exit. Follow Rt. 2 North (Ritchie Highway) through Arnold.

After the traffic light at Rt. 2 and College Parkway, the next light is Jones Station Road. On your right, you will see an Amoco Gas Station opposite a Crown Gas Stations.

At the intersection of Rt. 2 North and Jones Station Road, turn right onto Jones Station Road and make an immediate left onto Manhattan Beach Road which is between the Crown Gas Station and the wooded area with the Manhattan Beach Community and American Legion Post 175 signs. Follow Manhattan Beach Road approximately two tenths of a mile and make a left into the parking lot of American Legion Post 175. The entrance to the Banquet Room is to the left side of the parking lot in the rear.

From Route 2 South (Ritchie Highway) At Jones Station Road, make a left and make an immediate left onto Manhattan Beach Road. Proceed as above.

**Trivia Answer:** The E. Staubr Bäcker (bakery) of Alpine has the light hole on the side of the building. Now that is a display challenge!

## FROM THE EDITOR.....

*Happy Holidays and a  
Very Happy New Year!*

**See you at the January meeting and the Open House Tour.**

*Pat Ehrenreich*

Deadline of February - March Crier is February 10. Please send your items of interest so that they are received by February 10.

**The Village Crier**  
c/o Patricia Ehrenreich, Editor  
Post Office Box 2083  
Annapolis MD 21404

**NOW YOU CAN REACH THE VILLAGE CRIER  
ON LINE EMAIL: [news56@aol.com](mailto:news56@aol.com) with questions,  
comments, articles, etc.**

## 1997 DEPARTMENT 56

### INTRODUCTIONS

PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

PTBA=Price to be announced

TC= Accessory is Track Compatible with the new animated accessory track, item #52642

#### THE ORIGINAL SNOW VILLAGE

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| 54880 | Rockabilly Records                         | \$45.00 |
| 54881 | Christmas Lake High School                 | \$52.00 |
| 54882 | Birch Run Ski Chalet                       | \$60.00 |
| 54883 | Rosita's Cantina                           | \$50.00 |
| 54884 | Shingle Victorian<br>(Architecture Series) | \$55.00 |
| 54885 | Secret Garden Florist                      | \$50.00 |
| 54886 | Harley-Davidson<br>Motorcycle Shop         | \$65.00 |

#### SNOW VILLAGE ACCESSORIES

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| 54890 | Treetop Tree House                     | \$35.00 |
| 54891 | On the Road Again TC                   | \$20.00 |
| 54892 | Moving Day, s/3                        | \$32.50 |
| 54893 | Holiday Hoops, s/3                     | \$20.00 |
| 54894 | Men at Work, s/5                       | \$27.50 |
| 54895 | Terry's Towing, s/2 TC                 | \$20.00 |
| 54896 | Caroling Through the<br>Snow TC        | \$15.00 |
| 54897 | Heading for the Hills<br>2 assorted TC | \$ 8.50 |
| 54898 | Harley-Davidson Holiday s/2            | \$22.50 |
| 54899 | Santa Comes to Town 1997               | \$35.00 |
| 54900 | Harley-Davidson Fat Boy<br>and Softail | \$16.50 |
| 54901 | Harley-Davidson Sign                   | \$18.00 |

#### HERITAGE VILLAGES

##### DICKENS VILLAGE

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| 57535 | Gad's Hill (Signature Series,<br>Limited to 1997)          | \$98.00 |
| 58344 | Nettie Quinn Puppets<br>and Marionettes                    | \$50.00 |
| 58345 | Mulberry Court Brownstones                                 | \$90.00 |
| 58346 | The Olde Camden Town Church<br>(Christmas Carol Revisited) | \$55.00 |
| 58347 | Melancholy Tavern<br>(Christmas Carol Revisited)           | \$45.00 |
| 58348 | Quilly's Antiques  | \$46.00 |

##### NEW ENGLAND VILLAGE

|       |                            |         |
|-------|----------------------------|---------|
| 56574 | J. Hudson Stoveworks       | \$60.00 |
| 56575 | Navigational Charts & Maps | PTBA    |
| 56576 | Bob White Cottage          | \$50.00 |

##### ALPINE VILLAGE

|       |                        |      |
|-------|------------------------|------|
| 56713 | Danube Music Publisher | PTBA |
|-------|------------------------|------|

##### NORTH POLE

|       |  |          |
|-------|--|----------|
| 56391 | Route 1, North Pole, Home<br>of Mr. & Mrs. Claus | \$110.00 |
| 56392 | Hall of Records                                  | \$ 50.00 |
| 56393 | Christmas Bread Bakers                           | PTBA     |

#### CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

|       |                                   |      |
|-------|-----------------------------------|------|
| 58881 | Grand Central RR Station          | PTBA |
| 58882 | Cafe Caprice French<br>Restaurant | PTBA |

#### HERITAGE VILLAGE ACCESSORIES

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| 6183  | Nutcracker Vendor & Cart   | PTBA    |
| 56368 | North Pole Express TC  | PTBA    |
| 56369 | Early Rising Elves, s/5  | PTBA    |
| 56370 | End of the Line, s/2   | PTBA    |
| 56371 | Holiday Deliveries   | \$16.50 |
| 56593 | A New Potbellied Stove for<br>Christmas, s/2 TC                                  | \$35.00 |
| 56594 | Christmas Bazaar...Handmade<br>Quilts, s/2                                       | PTBA    |
| 56595 | Christmas Bazaar...Woolens<br>and Preserves                                      | PTBA    |
| 58383 | Twelve Days of Dickens Village<br>Swans-a-Swimming, s/4                          | \$27.50 |
| 54384 | Twelve Days of Dickens Village<br>Maids-a-Milking, s/2                           | \$25.00 |
| 58400 | The Fezziwig Delivery Wagon TC<br>(Christmas Carol Revisited)                    | \$32.50 |
| 54801 | Red Christmas Sulky TC   | \$30.00 |
| 54802 | Gingerbread Vendor, s/2  | \$22.50 |
| 58403 | A Christmas Carol Reading<br>by Charles Dickens, s/5                             | \$45.00 |
| 58404 | A Christmas Carol Reading<br>by Charles Dickens, s/8<br>(Limited Edition 42,500) | \$75.00 |
| 58894 | City Taxi TC   | \$12.50 |
| 58895 | The Family Tree  | \$18.00 |
| 58896 | Going Home for the Holidays<br>s/3   | PTBA    |

#### GENERAL VILLAGE

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| 52622 | Village Jack Pines, s/3                        | \$18.00 |
| 52623 | Vill. Bare Branch Trees, s/6                   | \$22.50 |
| 52624 | Picket Fence w/Gate, s/5                       | \$10.00 |
| 52625 | Picket Fence Extensions s/6                    | \$10.00 |
| 52626 | Mini Lights, 20 set strand                     | \$10.00 |
| 52627 | Boulevard Lamppost, s/4                        | \$15.00 |
| 52628 | Country Rd. Lampposts, s/4                     | \$12.50 |
| 52629 | Village Stone Wall                             | \$ 2.50 |
| 52630 | Village Holly Tree                             | \$10.00 |
| 52631 | Village Birch Tree Cluster                     | \$20.00 |
| 52632 | Village Towering Pines, s/2                    | \$13.50 |
| 52633 | Mill Creek (straight section)                  | \$12.50 |
| 52634 | Mill Creek (curved section)                    | \$12.50 |
| 52635 | Village Mill Creek Bridge                      | \$35.00 |
| 52636 | Village Winter Birch, s/6                      | \$22.50 |
| 52637 | Village frosted Spruce, s/2                    | \$25.00 |
| 52638 | Village Frosted Hemlock, s/2                   | \$32.50 |
| 52639 | Village Lighted Town Tree                      | \$35.00 |
| 52640 | Revolving Display Stand                        | \$50.00 |
| 52643 | Village Mountain Centerpiece                   | \$45.00 |
| 99246 | Spotlight Replcmnt Bulbs, s/6                  | \$ 2.50 |
| 99278 | Village 20 Bulb Strand<br>Village Smoking Unit | PTBA    |

#### ANIMATED ACCESSORIES

|       |                         |         |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|
| 52641 | Village Ski Mountain    | \$75.00 |
| 52642 | Village Accessory Track | \$65.00 |
| 52644 | Village Waterfall       | \$65.00 |

#### SNOWBABIES

|       |   |         |
|-------|---|---------|
| 68817 | Stargazing Starter Set, s/9                         | \$40.00 |
| 68818 | You Need Wings Too!                                 | \$25.00 |
| 68819 | When the Bough Breaks                               | \$30.00 |
| 68820 | There's No Place Like Home                          | \$16.50 |
| 68821 | It's Snowing!                                       | \$16.50 |
| 68822 | It's a Grand Old Flag                               | \$25.00 |
| 68823 | A Little Night Light Figurine                       | \$32.50 |
| 68824 | Five-Part Harmony                                   | \$45.00 |
| 58825 | Starry Pine Jingle Baby<br>Ornament                 | \$11.00 |
| 68826 | Jinglebell Jinglebaby<br>Ornament                   | \$11.00 |
| 68827 | Snowbaby In My Stocking<br>Ornament                 | \$10.00 |
| 68828 | Baby's First Rattle Ornament                        | \$15.00 |
| 68829 | Joy to the World Ornament                           | \$16.50 |
| 68830 | Practice Makes Perfect,<br>Waterglobe Music Box     | \$32.50 |
| 68831 | Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep<br>Waterglobe, Music Box | \$32.50 |
| 68832 | Once Upon Time,<br>Moving Musical Figure            | \$30.00 |
| 68833 | Sliding Through the Milky<br>Way, Music Box         | PTBA    |
| 68834 | You're My Snowbaby<br>Picture Frame                 | \$15.00 |
| 68835 | Moonbeams Night Light                               | \$20.00 |
| 68836 | A Little Night Light Lamp                           | \$75.00 |
| 68837 | Display Your Favorite<br>Snowbaby Lamp              | \$45.00 |
| 68838 | Snowbaby Display Sled<br>Snowbaby Finial for Lamp   | \$45.00 |

#### SNOWBABY PEWTER MINIATURES

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| I'm So Sleepy              |
| Climb Every Mountain       |
| With Hugs and Kisses       |
| Which Way's Up             |
| You Are My Lucky Star      |
| It's a Grand Old Flag      |
| It's Snowing               |
| When the Bough Breaks      |
| There's No Place Like Home |
| You Need Wings Too!        |
| Five Part Harmony          |

#### WINTER SILHOUETTE

|   |
|---|
| A Christmas Dollhouse Built by Grandfather  |
| I Spy Santa                                 |
| Father Time: Counting the Minutes Music Box |
| Father Time: Passing the Moments Music Box  |
| In the Meadow We Can Build a Snow Man       |

#### ALL THROUGH THE HOUSE

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| A Gift for Gretel                  |
| A Candle for Mary Jo               |
| Sweets for Sarah & Sam             |
| A Plum Pudding for Penelope        |
| A Stocking Stuffed for Stuart      |
| A Musical Melody for Matthew       |
| Uncle John Takes a Family Portrait |