



The Village Crier

Newsletter of

THE ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS



VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

JUNE - JULY, 1997

MEMBERS MEETING JULY 8, 1997

The next meeting of *The Annapolis Villagers* will be 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 1997. The meeting will be held at The American Legion, Post 175, Severna Park, MD. Directions to the meeting are on page 9.

Agenda: Business Meeting
 Election of Officers

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with our by laws, the Vice President and Treasurer will be elected for two year terms in odd numbered years. A Nominating Committee was formed at the May member's meeting for the July elections. Those elected will take office in September.

The Nominating Committee members Carole Dietz, Robert Young and Sharri Ogle presented the Board of Directors with the names of the following candidates:

Vice President: Jennifer Balla
 Shellie Seyer

Treasurer: Peter Baer (incumbent)
 Dick Baker

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor but the nominee must be present to accept the nomination. Once nominations are closed, a vote will be taken of the members present at the meeting. Officers elected at the meeting will be installed at our September meeting.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY PARTY July 26, 1997

Get out the swim suits, towels, suntan lotion and grab a beach chair, it is time for *The Annapolis Villagers'* annual Christmas in July Party. This event will be held on Saturday, July 26, 1997, 2 PM to ????, poolside, at the home of Peter and Trudi Baer, Galesville MD.

The party will be Pot Luck and, we are asking all members who attend to bring a covered dish, salad, dessert or condiments to serve 4 to 6. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, paper goods, soft drinks and beer. New this year, we are also asking members to bring some copies of the recipe for their covered dish. The recipe exchange is in response to requests for recipes from the wonderful array of foods that the members brought to the party last year.

Swimming, Bocce and other games are planned. We will also have prizes and surprises. The club is securing a large tent but bring your own beach chairs so that there will be seating for everyone. There will be an optional gift exchange. If you would like to participate, bring a wrapped ornament or similar gift of approximately \$5 maximum value for under the Christmas tree.

As an added bonus, you get to see the beautiful wall cabinet with DV display made by Trudi and Peter.

Because of the large increase since last year in membership and to accommodate everyone, the Christmas in July Party is limited to members and their families.

Dean Stevenson, Hospitality Chairperson, is coordinating the event. Call her at (410) 923-2755 by July 15 to let us know if you plan to attend and to coordinate food. Directions to the Baer's home are on Page 9.

**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: Trudi Baer
(410)867-0086

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

Photographer/Historian: Janice Zimmer
(410)239-1124
MDLUVU2@aol.com

Promotions: Bernice Smith
(410)268-7158

Telephone Tree: Jeannette Grebowsky
(301)464-2357

Ways & Means: John Dietz
(410)757-1136

Wish List: Jeanette Grebowsky
(301)464-2357

THE PRES SAYS.....

Now that summer has arrived and everyone seems to be spending more time outside we have planned the club picnic for Saturday, July 26th. Thanks go out to Pete and Trudi Baer for graciously offering their home for this event. If you plan on attending, please contact Dean Stevenson to work out the dish or dessert you could bring.

The Sunday Brunch at the Fleet Reserve was a huge success. We had over 50 people attend and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves tremendously. The club announced at the brunch that we would be having a separate meeting in July this year. In the past we would combine the meeting with the Picnic. However with all the activities on the calendar the board felt it was necessary to have a membership meeting separate from the Picnic. The election of officers will take place at the meeting.

I wish to thank the Nominating Committee for presenting a slate of candidates for the offices of Vice President and Treasurer. Be sure to attend and exercise your vote.

The club once again booked the Fleet Reserve on Friday, September 19th for our 5th Anniversary Dinner and Dance. The band is *Yellow Brick Road* so get your reservations in early. More details will follow but as you know we usually have gifts, prizes and surprises.

This year the club will be attending the Chesapeake Music Hall for the Annapolis Dinner Theater presentation of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. We have booked a large block of seats but urge any member interested to let us know as soon as possible.

Once again, please let your wishes be known by attending the meetings and being an active member of your club.

*See you at the meeting,
Bill Murphy*

**HERE WE
GROW AGAIN!****WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Michael and Joy Reese, New Market
Dennis and Mel Shapiro, Upper Marlboro

VILLAGE MEMORIES

Do not forget that Janice Zimmer, Club Historian and Photographer, is assembling an album of photographs of club functions and Gatherings from over the years. If you have any photographs, information or items that you would like to share with the club, see Janice at the next meeting or contact her at MDLUVU2@aol.com or (410) 239-1124.

May Meeting.....

Main Street Corner Shop Presentation and Patriotic Display Contest

Kay Hoyle and Dixie Boucher, Main Street Corner Shop, Laurel, MD, were the guest speakers for our May meeting. They gave us an informative presentation on Department 56 from the dealers' perspective. Selecting members from the audience, Dixie and Kay capped off their presentation with a game: "Who gets the limited edition when the dealer does not receive an allocation from Dept. 56 for every customer who wants one?". Members Kate Eustace, John Baldwin, Bob Emory, Joy Lindquist and Dean Stevenson were five "customers" vying for the 2 mythical limited editions. Each had one minute to explain to "dealer" Ina Devine why they should be selected to purchase the limited edition. Of course, each "customer" thought they had the best reason. It was a fun, insightful game that summed up the dealer's dilemma of having to please old and new customers. Kay and Dixie presented each participant with one of the new Department 56 working watch key ornaments.

After the presentation, the Patriotic Display Contest was held. The winners were:

- 1st:** John Ehrenreich
DV/CIC Flag Day Parade
- Prize:** \$40 Gift Certificate,
Carrie's Collectibles, Crofton
- 2nd:** Pat Ehrenreich
CIC Fourth of July Picnic
- Prize:** \$20 Gift Certificate,
Christmas Goose, Queenstown
- 3rd:** Janice and Jerry Zimmer,
Snowbaby Symphony 4th of July Concert
- Prize:** Night Before Christmas Ornament,
Golden Goose, Queenstown

D56 Trivia: Where is Charles Dickens buried?

Answer on Page 9

THE SOCIAL SCENE

VILLAGER'S HOST SUNDAY BRUNCH

For the second year in a row, The Villagers held a Sunday Brunch at The Fleet Reserve Club, Compromise Street on the Annapolis Harbor. Over fifty members had a great time watching the boats go by, enjoying brunch and each other's company in a very relaxed atmosphere.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS

.....FIFTH ANNIVERSARY PARTY.....

September 19, 1997 *The Annapolis Villagers* will hold their Fifth Anniversary Dinner Party at *The Fleet Reserve Club*, Compromise Street, Annapolis. Dinner includes salad bar, any entree from the menu, and an after dinner cordial. Music for after dinner dancing will be provided by the local popular band, Yellow Brick Road. The cost is \$25 per member and \$35 for non members. Single members may bring one guest at the member price.

Each person attending will receive a thank you gift from the club. There will also be prizes and surprises.

Contact Bill Murphy at (410) 757-4582 or John Ehrenreich at (410) 647-1680 to reserve your place at this grand event.

.....ANNAPOLIS DINNER THEATER..... December 7, 1997 "A Christmas Carol"

For the holidays, *The Annapolis Villagers* have planned a special treat. We have reserved seating at the Annapolis Dinner Theater, Sunday, December 7, matinee performance of Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol". The doors open at 1:30 p.m. and we will be served a gourmet dinner. The performance of the play begins at 3:00 p.m. It is a wonderful opportunity to get into the holiday spirit, enjoy a performance of a timeless literary masterpiece and have a grand dining experience.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person and includes dinner and the show. If you are interested in attending, contact Lynne Murphy at (410) 757-4582 the earlier the better. We have arranged for sixty reserved seats. Additional seating will be available only if the theater has space available. So, do not delay in letting us know as soon as possible if you want to join us. For those interested in attending, payment is due by November 11, 1997 at the member's meeting.

And That's Not All Folks.....

Look for more information in future editions of *The Crier* on these events and others now being planned for our members.

MEMBERS ATTEND WAX WATERFALL CLASS

On May 31, 1997, members Jerry and Janice Zimmer, Pat and John Ehrenreich and Pete and Trudi Baer traveled to *The Golden Goose*, Occoquan, VA for the second class in the wax water series. The class was once again taught by the talented Carl and Rita Carter. Our members learned how to make and incorporate wax waterfalls into village displays. It was an enjoyable learning experience. Several members who took the first class, wax water Ponds and Streams, were unable to attend the May 31 class due to prior commitments. John Ehrenreich is arranging a September waterfall class for those members.

NEWS FROM DEPARTMENT 56

D56 MID YEAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

While the 1997 introductions are still arriving in stores, D56 recently made mid year announcements for villages and Snowbabies. And, they did not disappoint collectors!

For the 1997 releases, the two with the most talked about and anticipated by collectors were SV Harley Davidson Shop and accessories and the DV Brownstones. Previously, D56 announced that the 1997 introduction of Gad's Hill Place was the last in the Signature Series for DV. You do not have to wait any longer wondering what D56 would do to replace the popular series. With the announcement of the mid year releases, D56 also announced the beginning of a new Dickens' Village sub set: *The Historical Landmark Series*, not limited to year of production at this time according to D56. The first introduction is none other than *The Tower of London*.

In Heritage Village, Dickens' now will have a coal merchant and delivery vehicle as well as a beautiful new cottage, *Barmby Moor*. New England villagers will have a ironworks to complement the stove works. *The HiDeHo Night Club* in CIC is the place to step out to for the well dressed set of five party goers. All the lit town news will be found in the CIC and NP newspaper offices Alpine Village should attract more collectors with the adorable Bernhardiner Hundchen and accompanying St. Bernhard Puppies puppies accessory. Snow Villagers will have a new church to attend, as well as a mansion and a whole family of shoppers. Snowbaby collectors will have new bisque introductions and ornaments.

Speaking of ornaments, D56 announced that there will be an ornament of the DV Signature series, *Gad's Hill Place*. There

will also be ornaments for two highly sought after retired lit houses--NP *Santa's Workshop* and Dickens *Village Mill*. All of the ornaments will sell for \$15 each.

On the latest introductions, there is something for everyone--village and Snowbaby collectors. So, start saving your money again because it will be hard to choose:

1997 MID YEAR INTRODUCTIONS

Dickens Village

<i>J. Lyles Coal Merchant</i>	\$ 50.00
<i>Barmby Moor Cottage</i>	\$ 48.00
<i>Delivering Coal for the Hearth</i> (Accessory-set/2)	\$32.50
New for Dickens: Historical Landmark Series	
<i>Tower of London</i> (set/5)	\$165.00
<i>(Ed. Note: See related article on page 7)</i>	

New England Village

<i>Van Guilder's Ornamental Ironworks</i>	\$ 50.00
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Alpine Village

Bernhardiner Hundchen (St. Bernard Puppies)	\$ 50.00
A New Batch of Christmas Friends (Accessory-set/3)	\$27.50

Christmas in the City

<i>The City Globe</i>	\$ 65.00
<i>HiDeHo Nightclub</i>	\$52.00
<i>Steppin' Out on the Town</i> (Acc-set/5)	\$35.00

North Pole

<i>The Glacier Gazette</i>	\$ 48.00
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Snow Village

<i>Old Chelsea Mansion</i>	\$ 85
<i>New Hope Church</i>	\$ 60
<i>The Whole Family Goes Shopping</i> (Accessory-set/3)	\$ 25
<i>Home for the Holidays Start a Tradition</i> (set/8)	\$75 through November 9, after that date \$100

HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS INTRODUCTIONS ANNOUNCED

In the last edition of the Crier, we reported that Department 56's 1997 *Homes for the Holidays* for village collectors would take place at participating dealers nationwide November 1 through November 9.

**Do not forget, Village Retirement Day will be November 7.

Homes for the Holidays Introductions

D56 is continuing it's *Homes for the Holidays Start a Tradition* sets. This year there will be two new *Start a Tradition Sets*-- Snow Village and Dickens Village that will arrive in time at dealers' who are participating in *Homes for the Holidays*.

Look for a new 1997 Event Piece, too.

Holly and the Ivy (set/2) \$17.50

The 1997 *Start a Tradition Sets*, will include:

--DV: *Sudbury Church, Old East Rectory, Vicar* and parishoners

--SV: *Kringle's Toy Shop, Hot Chocolate Stand* and boy pulling wagon with presents and a girl drinking hot chocolate. The hot chocolate stand looks like a mug. Look for a Jack in the box with a spring sitting on top Kringle's store and a revolving door, no less, to enter the building. ***Look for more lit houses with revolving doors in the future.

Both the Dickens' and Snow Village Starter Sets will sell for \$75 during *Homes for the Holidays*. After November 9, they will retail at \$100 but they will not retire this year.

The House That ♥ Built

Participating dealers will also receive at least one *Ronald McDonald House®*, ceramic lit house. It will not be available for sale. Dealers will be expected to use the *Ronald McDonald House®* for promotional fund raising during *Homes for the Holidays*. If you do not win the *Ronald McDonald House®*, you will be able to purchase an ornament replica that will sell for \$7.50. D56 is also donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of these ornaments to *Ronald McDonald Foundation*.

D56 SNOWBABY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mid Year Introductions

Bisque Snowbabies

<i>Wish Upon a Falling Star</i>	\$ 75.00
<i>Two Little Snowbabies on the Go</i>	\$ 22.50
<i>Best Little Star</i>	\$ 16.00
<i>Wishing you a Merry Christmas</i>	\$ 40.00

Booty Bisque Snowbaby Ornaments

<i>One, Two, High Button Shoe</i>	\$12.50
<i>Three, Four, Room for One More</i>	\$12.50

Polish Mercury Glass Snowbaby Ornaments

<i>Tree</i>	\$22.50
<i>Drum</i>	\$22.50

New! Bisque Snowbaby Hinged Boxes

<i>Surprise</i>	\$15.00
<i>Celebrate</i>	\$15.00

Snowbaby Event December 5-7

In the last issue of the Crier, we told you D56 announced that participating dealers would hold a separate Snowbaby event. If you have not already, Snowbaby collectors should mark the dates December 5 through December 7 on your calendars.

D56 has announced several limited items for the Snowbaby event. The follow items will be available only at dealers hosting a Snowbaby event December 5 through 7 and they will be retired as well.

<i>Rock a Bye Baby Bisque Hinged Box</i>	\$ 15.00
1997 Bisque Snowbaby Pin	\$ 5.00
<i>Let's Go See Jack Frost*</i>	\$ 60.00

(*Commemorates Snowbaby 10 year anniversary. Features two Snowbabies paging through an open book, it will have readable gold lettering, *Snowbaby Journey 1987-1997*. The piece has an acrylic like base. While *Let's Go See Jack Frost* is not numbered, we may be looking at a new series for Snowbabies like the DV Signature Series. Watch for more news!

Snowbaby Collectors Club

In addition to mid year releases and a special event, Snowbaby collectors have evening more to be excited about. In response to the requests by collectors, D56 has announced that they will have a Snowbaby Collectors Club. Look for details at your participating Snowbaby event dealer. We can tell you that membership will cost \$35 and you will receive a membership that includes a special Snowbaby available only to club members and a reproduction of a signed mechanical drawing of the Snowbaby. Most exciting of all, you will find a redemption certificate included in your membership kit to purchase a limited edition Snowbaby that will be available to club members only.

DEPT 56 AND QVC

D56 has announced that they will be on QVC, cable shopping channel, two or three times in the upcoming months. According to Consumer Services, D56 looks at QVC as an opportunity to

increase marketing and sales to new collectors. Offerings will be currently available items and will include "product enhancements" such as the landscaping kit, video, etc.--just as D56 included in last year's QVC outing.

HOSPITALITY PACS

In another attempt to increase marketing and sales, D56 entered into an agreement with Hospitality Pac, a gift promotion company in New York, to market D56 houses and Snowbabies directly to Realtors. The purpose was to make D56 product available as settlement thank you gifts. However, Hospitality Pacs offered the D56 products to the Realtors at prices lower than D56's wholesale price to dealers. When D56 dealers (many of whom already have a real estate companies as customers) and collectors found out about the deep discounts, they immediately looked to D56 corporate because of the company's no discount policy. After quickly reviewing the matter, D56 found that Hospitality Pac was not abiding by its contract with D56 and D56 bought back all of the product.

LIMITED MERCURY GLASS ORNAMENT

Mercury glass ornament collectors will be delighted to hear that D56 has announced its second limited to year of production ornament. This year's introduction is called *Santa Stocking*. If you do not have last year's introduction, *Santa Sleigh*, check your dealer now for availability.

D56 ANNOUNCES SNOWBUNNY RETIREMENTS

As we went to press, D56 announced Snowbunny retirements:

I've Got a Surprise
Tra La La
Easter Delivery
Rub a Dub Dub Three Bunnies in a Tub
All Shrubs in a Tub (single, double, triple)
Goosey, Goosey Gander
Wishing You a Happy Easter
Woodland Wagon at Dragonfly Hollow
Look What I've Got Waterglobe
1997 Annual--Counting the Days Till Easter

D56 will announce new Snowbunny introductions in mid July.

D56 TO ANNOUNCE SWEEPSTAKES

Have you ever said..... "I wish I could Design a Lit House for D56." You just may get your chance if you win the grand prize in the Sweepstakes D56 will be announcing very soon. It appears that the first prize will be the opportunity to design a lit house with D56 designers, 2nd prize, the opportunity to design an accessory.

When D56 announces the Sweepstakes, they will also announce the purpose of stamps they have been distributing at Bachman's 1996 Homes for the Holidays and shows in the last year. Collectors around the country have been trading and even selling the various stamps this past year to get a complete set because D56 up to now has not announced the purpose of the stamps.

To date, the Crier has learned that in conjunction with the 1997 *Homes for the Holidays*, participating dealers will receive Passports for collectors as well as a supply of stamps. Collectors will attach the stamps to the Passport and mail it to D56 to enter D56's Sweepstakes. D56 will make the formal announcement of the Sweepstakes and the purpose of the stamps this summer. The Crier will keep you posted. So, start thinking about what lit house or accessory you would design for D56 if you won the Sweepstakes. *It could be you!*

PA5-6000 GATHERING NEWS

While the 1999 Mid-Atlantic Village Gathering is in the planning, collectors will have the opportunity to attend another Gathering in close proximity. The second PA5-6000 Gathering will be held May 1, 2 and 3 1998 in Lancaster PA. Guest speakers including Judith Price, Roger Bain, and Al Black, have already been announced. You will find the Swap and Sell and Show and Sell on both Friday and Saturday and room hopping on Friday night in addition to seminars throughout the Lancaster Gathering.

The Executive Committee of PA5-6000 has just announced a pre PA5-6000 raffle for a numbered Charles Dickens Replica Desk and Chair, retail value \$7100.

Tickets for the desk/chair raffle will only be sold in advance of the PA5-6000 Gathering and you do not have to be present to win. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10 and may be obtained by mail: Send your check, return self addressed stamped envelope, and note containing how many desk/chair raffle tickets you are ordering to:

Ken Schwarz
326 Hill Court
Havre de Grace MD 21078-4102

You may also contact Ken for more information about PA5-6000 at the above address or Greg Roth through email via TxVillager@aol.com

VILLAGE MARKET

Unless otherwise noted, call Bill Murphy
(410) 757-4582 for these items.

CLUB BADGES — Green & White badges containing Club Name, Logo and Your Name. \$4.25.

CLUB PINS — Specially designed club pin feature club logo. \$5.00 for first pin to club member, \$7.00 for additional pins or for non-members. Add \$1.00 S&H if required to mail. Contact Pete Baer at (410)867-0086, E-Mail Peter.Baer@mail.house.gov

CLUB SHIRTS — Club Shirts, with embroidered Club logo, are available in a variety of colors in S, to XL at \$20.00 and \$22.00 for XXL. Non Members may order shirts at \$25 and \$27 respectively. Add \$5.00 S&H per shirt for orders that are to be mailed.

MID ATLANTIC VILLAGE GATHERING MEMORABILIA

1997 Event Pin — \$6.00

1997 Event Piece - The Arbor — \$15.00

Set of Three Christmas Tree Ornaments with 1994, '95, & '97 Logos. \$45.00 per set of 3.

THE TOWER OF LONDON

By Pat Ehrenreich

The new DV Historical Landmark Series is an exciting way to combine collecting with increasing our knowledge of history. There are many opportunities for future additions to the DV Historical Landmark Series that come to my mind immediately, such as Westminster Abbey, London Bridge, Big Ben and Buckingham Palace to name just a few. This new series could certainly be a display challenge.

D56's Tower of London, set of 5, is a re-creation of the White Tower a non lighted gate with a separate tower section, a landscape sign placard for the Tower of London (the landscape trees will have "touches of snow"), a Raven Master (Beefeater Guard) and two ravens as well as a low wall with four more ravens.

Now for a bit of history: The Tower of London is not just one Tower but it is a palace that contains a total of 20 towers!

William, the Conqueror started building a new palace in 1066 when he assumed the throne. It was to be the last of several castles built to form a chain of fortifications around London for protection against the newly defeated Anglo Saxons and would be invaders. What is called the White Tower today was the first and original Tower of London and is what D56 has recreated for collectors. William died before its completion but his sons William Rufus and Henry I continued constructions. This mighty fortress Keep, with its own garrison, loomed largely and strategically on the Thames was originally called the Tower of London. To keep the Tower strategically visible and to protect it from the elements, it was regularly whitewashed. Successors to William and his sons, added additional fortifications and towers to so that the entire complex covering 18 acres became known as the Tower of London. Thus, the original Keep came to be known then as the White Tower. It stands today stately as and imposing as ever--rising 90 feet to the battlements and measures 118 feet from east to west by 107 feet, north to South with walls 15 feet thick at the base and 11 feet at the top. The White Tower, although it appears to be square is actually irregular.

The White Tower has served England well as a castle and fortification--with its royal apartments, accommodations for the commander of the garrison and a second floor chapel for the monarchy, the Chapel of St. John, etc. It has also been the home of prisoners of state but it is not to be confused with the Bloody Tower that is also part of the Tower of London complex.

Today, the White Tower is home to part of the magnificent national collection of arms and armour that are under the care of the Royal Armouries.

We will have more on the Tower including photographs at the July meeting.

MORE D56 PRODUCT NEWS

Lighted Tree....# 52603--We recently learned that D56 is redesigning the lighted tree due to mechanical problems. Not all of the trees are experiencing mechanical problems so D56 is not recalling all product now on the market. Look for the revised designed trees at dealer's late this summer. In the meantime, if you have a problem with a tree you have already purchased, contact D56 Consumer Services, at (800) LIT TOWN.

Ski Mountain Animated Accessory... D56 has announced that the Ski Mountain is being redesigned due to problems with the current design. Thus, it's doubtful that many Ski Mountains will be in stores by Christmas. Check with your dealer on availability.

Prizes

*We want to thank Bernice Smith, those who work with her and our supporting dealers, organizations and members who donate prizes. We ask that all members let dealers know they are members of **The Annapolis Villagers**.*

May Raffle

DV Betsy Trotwood Cottage won by Ruth Baldwin

May Door Prizes

--**Village Exchange Set**-- retired newsletters, bumper sticker and security pen from Jack Skeels, Publisher won by Fred Klinken

--**Pocket Magnifiers** from Mid Atlantic Village Gathering won by Jerry Zimmer, Carole Dietz, Kate Eustace and Peter Baer

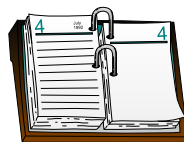
--**Village Lamp Posts** won by Bill Corse

--**Village Bumper Stickers** from Jack Skeels won by Shirley Young

We want to thank Kaye Hoyle and Dixie Boucher, Main Street Corner Shop, for giving the six members, who participated in their presentation at the May meeting, the new D56 working watch ornaments.

Door Prizes for the Sunday Brunch will be in the next edition of the Crier.

CALENDAR



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

- July 8** **7 PM. Members' Meeting**, American Legion, Post 175, Manhattan Beach Road. Directions on page 9.
- July 12** **Main Street Corner Shoppe**, Larel. How-To-Do-It Display tips presented by Dick & Pat Schwiniger. Call for details and time, (301)725-3099.
- July 13** **Edwards on the Boardwalk**, Ocean City, MD. D56

Dealer Event. Call (410) 289-7979 for more info.

- July 26** **2 PM to ? Annapolis Villagers' Christmas in July Picnic**, home of Peter and Trudi Baer. Directions on page 9.
- July 30** **The Country Bunny D56 Dealer Event**. Rt. 1 South, Seaside Village, Drawings for prizes including retired pieces. Call Todd Vickers for more info (302) 537-4004
- Aug. 9** **Main Street Corner Shoppe**, Laurel. How-To-Do-It Display Tips presented by J. D. Rogers. Call for time and info (301)725-3099
- Aug. 15-17** **Bachman's Village Gathering**. Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN. Call 1-800-4-BLOOMS for details. Also, Great Escapes Tours has packages from \$525 / person, double occupancy that include airfare, accommodations, tickets transportation etc. Call Tim Kearney, (215)245-5262 for details.
- Aug. 29-31** **Southern Regional Gathering**. Renaissance Concourse Hotel. Atlanta, GA. Contact Glenn Baker for details. (770)461-4257.
- Sept. 19** **Annapolis Villagers Anniversary Party**. Fleet Reserve Club, Annapolis. Call Bill Murphy (410) 7575-4582 or John Ehrenreich at (410) 647-1680.
- Sep. 20** **Shenandoah Valley Villagers Annual Swap & Sell**. Clark County Ruritan Fairgrounds. Berryville, VA. Info: Ellen Rivers, 540-662-0911
- Oct. 17-19** **Display Expo '97**. (Formally Niagara Falls Gathering) Saratoga, NY. For hotel reservations call (518)584-4550, for other info call Gary at (518)273-2057.
- Oct. 19** **Golden Goose Open House**. Occoquan, VA. (703)494-4964 for info.
- Nov. 1 - 9** **Dept. 56 1997 Home for the Holidays Event**
- Nov. 7** **Dept.56 Village Retirements Announced**
- Dec. 5 - 7** **Dept. 56 Snowbaby Event**
- Dec. 5** **D56 Snowbaby Retirements Announced**
- Dec. 5 - 7** **Great Escapes Tours** of Bensalem, PA presents *A Victorian Christmas with Charles Dickens*. Includes 2 nights accommodations, evening dinner theater presentation of "Broadway Christmas", 2 morning buffet breakfasts, tickets to *A Victorian Christmas* at Mt. Hope Estate & Winery and open house at *Dutch Indoor Village*. \$299 for 2 nights / 2 people and \$250 for 2 nights / 1 person. Contact Tim Kearney, (215)245-5262 for info.
- Dec. 7** **Annapolis Dinner Theater includes production of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol**. Reserved club seating limited. \$25 per person for dinner and show.

Call Lynne Murphy (410) 757-4582 to reserve your place. Payment due by November 11, 1007 members' meeting.

DIRECTIONS TO MEETINGS HELD AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 175



From Rt. 50, take Rt. 2 North Exit. Follow Rt. 2 N (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 Station.

At the Rt. 2 N and Jones Station Road intersection, turn right onto Jones Station Road and make an immediate left onto Manhattan Beach Road which is between the Crown 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. 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 S (Ritchie Highway) At Jones Station Road, make a left and then an immediate left onto Manhattan Beach Road. Proceed as above.

Trivia Answer: Charles Dickens died June 9, 1870 and is buried in Westminster Abbey in England. Could we see D56 produce a Westminster Abbey in the future for the DV Historical Landmark Series????????????????????

DIRECTIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS IN JULY PARTY TO BE HELD AT THE HOME OF PETE AND TRUDI BAER

Take MD Route 2 South from the Parole area. Stay on Rt. 2 to MD 214, Central Avenue. Turn left on MD 214, Central Avenue and proceed to the second traffic light--MD 468, Muddy Creek Road. Turn right onto MD 468, Muddy Creek Road and follow approximately 6 miles to the traffic light from MD 255, Galesville Road. Turn left onto MD 255, Galesville Road and travel about ½ mile to Anchors Way. Turn right onto Anchors Way and follow to the 2nd left, Captain's Court. The Baer home is the first house on the right and the address is 4879 Captains Court.

FROM THE EDITOR.....We apologize for the lateness of this issue of *The Village Crier* but we do hope you enjoy it. We hope that you like the historical information on the Tower of London. Sources for our article were *The Tower of London* by Christopher Hibbert 1971, Newsweek Book Division and *Her Majesty's Royal Palace and the Fortress of the Tower of London*, Peter Hammond, 1987, 6th revision 1994, Historic Royal Palaces. Due to space limitations we were unable to share all of the material or photographs but they will be available at our July 8 meeting.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our July 8 meeting and at future events starting with the Christmas in July party.

Happy Collecting!
Pat Ehrenreich

Deadline of August 10. Please send your items of interest so that they are received by August 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 with questions,
comments, articles, etc.**

Come to the July 8 Meeting to learn the answers to these questions and more?

Who is considered the major builder of the Tower of London complex?

What was found under the White Tower?

What is the Royal Menagerie?

What did Oliver Cromwell do to the Crown Jewels?

What is the legend of the Ravens of The Tower?

Who lives at the Tower of London today?

What happens every night at the Tower of London?

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. The *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

ICHABOD CRANE'S COTTAGE

Accessories

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

The Tower of London

Department 56 picked an imposing and impressive structure to debut its new Historical Landmark series. For many people, The Tower of London means the place where royalty met with their fate at the executioner's hands. However, The Tower of London is much more than that. It has a rich history and it still stands majestically overlooking the Thames River and the Tower Bridge.

No sooner than he was crowned King in 1166, William the Conqueror began building the Tower of London. This was not to be just another castle or royal residence, the Tower of London was built as a fortification. With the Thames as the major transportation route into London, William wanted a strategic and imposing fortification to guard London from any potential invaders.