



# The Village Crier

Newsletter of

THE ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS



VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER, 1997

## MEMBERS MEETING NOVEMBER 11, 1997

The next meeting of *The Annapolis Villagers* will be 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 11, 1997, *American Legion, Post 175*, Severna Park, MD. Directions to the meeting are on page 9.

**Agenda:** Brief Business Meeting  
*L & H Miniatures*

## L AND H MINIATURES GUESTS AT NOVEMBER 11 MEETING

We are very pleased to welcome back Linda and Howard (Huffy) Hoffman, at our November 11 meeting. Linda and Huffy hand make beautiful, affordable metal (non-lead) miniatures for D56 village displays. Frequently, such items as clowns, working people, the headless Horseman, etc. are pieces that "D56 forgot to make". After an informative presentation, Linda and Huffy will have miniatures available for sale -- just in time to add to your Christmas display.

## BRING A CANNED GOOD TO THE MEETING

Once again, we are asking members to bring at least one canned good to our November meeting so that we may make a donation to the *Salvation Army*. In lieu of canned goods, you may donate cash, if you wish. All cash contributions will be used to purchase additional canned goods for our donation. Last year, the *Salvation Army* in Glen Burnie was very appreciative of the several bags of canned goods donated by the Villagers.

## GUESS THE D56 1997 RETIREMENTS BALLOT IN THIS ISSUE--SEE PAGE 2

## HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS EVENTS

Many D56 dealers are busily planning *Homes for the Holidays Events* which will take place at participating dealers

November 1 - 9, 1997. D56 will announce Village retirements

on November 7, 1997. (Also see *Hot Line*, page 7).

In the past, members of the Villagers have assisted dealers in our area by greeting D56 customers and distributing club information. Some members have also conducted display seminars. Dealer response to our club has been great. This is one way we can support local dealers and gain new members. For 1997 events, dealers are requesting our members' presence.

Members, we need you to volunteer an hour or two of your time at your dealer. Dealers if we can assist you, let us know. Members and dealers, please contact Bill Murphy at (410) 757-4582 so we can coordinate where members will be and where members are needed.

## Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Approximately 50 tickets have already been sold for our Villagers outing to *The Annapolis Dinner Theater*, Sunday, December 7, for the 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 play begins at 3:00 p.m. Of course, there will be prizes and surprises!

If you are interested in attending, contact Lynne Murphy at (410) 757-4582 **now**. We reserved 60 seats. Additional seating will be available only if their space available. We need to know as soon as possible if you want to join us. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and includes dinner and the show. Payment is due by November 11, 1997 at the member's meeting.

## THE PRES SAYS.....

### OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**President:** Bill Murphy  
(410)757-4582

**Vice President:** Bernice Smith  
(410)268-7158

**Treasurer:** Peter Baer  
(410)867-0086  
Peter.Baer@mail.house.gov

**Secretary:** Trudi Baer  
(410)867-0086

**Membership:** Norma Damico  
(410)721-3310

**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:** Stella Angelucci  
(410)647-9496

**Telephone Tree:** Jeannette Grebowsky  
(301)552-2910

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

**Wish List:** Jeannette Grebowsky  
(301)464-2357

Now that we are experiencing cooler weather, you know Autumn has arrived. September was a busy month for the club. Our food selling efforts at the Christmas Goose Swap and Sell were very profitable and I thank all the members who participated. We really outdid ourselves at the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance. The Disney theme table centerpieces created by Jeannette Grebowsky and Pat Fisher were outstanding. Everyone who attended had a great time.

If you have not renewed your membership, now is the time to do it so you will not miss out on all the fun. Many activities are coming up. Check out the articles about our November meeting with L & H Miniatures, D56's Homes for the Holidays, our Retirement Contest, our Raffle, Dinner Theater/Christmas Party just to name a few. Speaking of D56's Homes for the Holidays, our valued dealers have already asked many of our members to help at events. I know I will be attending at least 3 or 4 events. We are more than willing to help our local dealers and we want to coordinate our efforts so let us know what your plans are.

It was good to see Bernice Smith at the October board meeting. She is making great progress on her road to recovery. The club is fortunate to have her as an active member. Thanks to John Ehrenreich for continuing to help with the Vice President duties while Bernice makes her recovery.

I would like to welcome the new board members who have stepped forward: Norma Damico, Membership, Stella Angelucci, Prizes and Promotions and Bernie Dvorak, Telephone Tree. I want to also thank Pat Fisher, Bernice Smith and Jeannette Grebowsky for their hard work in these positions. We can always use more help on the committees, so please call me or the committee chairperson if you are interested.

The Mid Atlantic Village Gathering is forming committees for the 1999 event. Several members have stepped forward to attend the next planning meeting with me. Since the Villagers are one of the three member clubs that provide the volunteers to run this premier Gathering, it would be appreciated if we could give more support. I will be discussing the 1997 Mid Atlantic Gathering at our November meeting. Please contact me if you would like to become involved.

See you at the meeting, *Bill Murphy*

## 1997 ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS RETIREMENT CONTEST

It's that time of year again when Department 56 will soon publish their retirements in USA Today. This means that it is also time for our Annual Retirement Contest. Ballots are enclosed with this newsletter and the Contest Rules are on the Ballot. Entries must be on the ballot provided and guesses are restricted to items on the ballot, which are current Snowbabies, Heritage Village and Snow Village lighted houses & accessories. Ornaments, music boxes, water globes, animated accessories and other Department 56 collectibles are omitted.

Each correct guess of a Snowbaby or lighted house is worth 3 points; correct accessory is worth 2 points. Each incorrect guess will reduce final score 1 point. There is one change from

last year, D56 will have two retirement dates, one for villages and one for Snowbabies. We will still have one contest.

Ballots must be postmarked by November 5, 1997 which is prior to the Village retirement date on November 7, 1997. However, ballots will not be tabulated until after the Snowbaby retirement date on December 5, 1997. The results will be in the December-January Crier.

Return your ballots to: John Ehrenreich  
304 Gordon Avenue  
Severna Park, MD 21146

**Mark the envelope "Retirement Contest"**

**IS THERE AN  
"X"  
ON YOUR MAILING LABEL?**

We have not received your 1997 membership renewal, if there is an "X" on your mailing label.

**You can get out of "The X File" if you act promptly.**

**Renew today!  
Do not miss out on any of the benefits of membership in The Annapolis Villagers.**

**Can't find your renewal form?  
Hint: It was in the August- September Crier.**

**You do not need the form to renew.  
To avoid being detained in "The X File",  
send in your renewal now  
\$10 per single membership  
\$15 per 2 persons sharing the same  
household**

**Send your name, address and phone number  
with your check or money order to:**

Annapolis Villagers  
Membership  
Post Office Box 2083  
Annapolis MD 21404

**NOTE: If you sent in your 1997 renewal**

**SHOW AND TELL TABLE**

Do you have a display idea that you could share with other members, new D56 item or an any item, including non-D56, that would go with our villages. At each meeting, we will have a table for members for show and tell.

Please call Bernice Smith at 410-268-7158 before the meeting if you would like to use the Show and Sell Table.

**WE HAVE A LIBRARY!**

Thanks to Janice Zimmer, our Photographer/Historian, we now have a club library. The library will contain samples of publications or other items related to collecting D56.

Our Library will be available at each meeting. Please call Janice at (410) 239-1124 or via email MDLUVU2@aol.com

*Do not forget--Our club Photo Album is available at each meeting. Look for pictures from our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party in the album at the November 11 meeting.*

**SEPTEMBER MEETING**

After the business meeting, John and Pat Ehrenreich gave a display demonstration using only one Department 56 house and adding various non D56 items to bring the scene to life.

John , with the assistance of Bob Keefer, showed everyone how easy it is to make mountain backdrops for your village with aluminum foil. Pat explained the various items in the display--1/43 scale cars, easy to make miniature picnic tables, seasonal landscaping with silk flowers, a clothes line, fencing, swimming pool filled with water and swimmers, etc.

**VILLAGERS CREATE DISPLAYS AT  
MAIN STREET CORNER SHOPPE**

For the last several months, Kay Hoyle and Dixie Boucher, of *Main Street Corner Shoppe*, have presented display seminars by members of the area clubs. There were two seminars presented by our club members. Pat and John Ehrenreich did an inviting summer ocean scene in June using NEV and DV. In October, Cheryl Powell and her sister, Karen Shiflett, created a delightfully spooky Halloween wonderland with DV Scrooge's house and several other DV houses. They added a grave yard and a skull fountain complete with running "bloody" water. You see these displays and others at the store. Check out the calendar on page 9 for upcoming display seminars at *Main Street Corner Shoppe*.

## **VILLAGERS AT RUSS COUNTRY GARDENS AND CHRISTMAS GOOSE AND GOLDEN GOOSE**

During the month of September, *Russ Country Gardens*, Taylorsville, held two very successful events. The first was a D56 event to raise funds for *Ronald McDonald House*. The Dunking Booth was a great success--Tom, Richard and D56 reps Jon and Cathy Kramer all were dunked due to the good aim of many of those who gave it their best pitch. Two weeks later, Russ' held their semi-annual D56 Swap and Sell. Villagers were on hand to distribute club information and sell tickets for our special raffle.

The folks at *The Christmas Goose*, Queenstown, also sponsored a successful D56 Swap and Sell in September. The Villagers operated the food concession. Coffee and donuts were available at the start of the day. For lunch, members, led by chief cook Peter Baer, cooked up burgers and hot dogs to order on his charcoal grill. Villagers also distributed information about the club and sold tickets for our special raffle.

On October 19, Villagers attended a full day event at the *Golden Goose* in Occoquan VA. Starting at 9:00 a.m., the event had seminars for all aspects of collecting D56. Peter and Jeanne George, publisher and editor of *The Village Chronicle*, and Carl and Rita Carter of WaxWater gave informative seminars to packed rooms.

## **EVENTS AND GATHERINGS FOR D56 COLLECTORS**

### ***BANNER HALLMARK EVENT* October 26, 1997**

*Banner Hallmark*, Annapolis Mall, is holding a display event on Sunday, October 26, 1997 from 6.30 to 9:00 p.m. Learn new ways to get your own home ready for the holidays. Members of the Villagers will be presenting display ideas for D56 villages. Refreshments will be served, there will be door prizes and a grand prize drawing for one of the 1997 *Start a Tradition* Sets.

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

Since the last newsletter, our newest members are:

John Breads of Davidsonville, MD  
Homestead Gardens of Davidsonville, MD  
Dino & Stacy Minoglio, of Union Bridge MD  
Joanie Swan of Glen Burnie, MD  
Don & Betty Wofford of Cockeysville, MD  
P. Ken & Phyllis Wood of Glen Burnie, MD

## **WHAT A NIGHT!**

### ***MICKEY AND MINNIE* HELP ANNAPOLIS VILLAGERS CELEBRATE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

The Villagers celebrated our fifth anniversary in grand style at the Fleet Reserve Club. The theme for the party was Mickey and Minnie Mouse--from the beautiful centerpieces and carried through the presents each person attending received.

Villagers found each of our tables decorated with a beautiful centerpiece that contained one of the D56 Disney Park houses as well as accessories. The centerpieces were made by our very talented Jeanette Grebowsky and Pat Fisher. The lucky person at each table who found a ribbon under their chair got to take home the centerpiece.

After a delicious dinner, each person attending received either a D56 working key watch or a Mickey and Minnie Christmas ball. However, some surprises were still left--numbers were drawn for great door prizes.

Good music to dance to was provided by local band, *Yellow Brick Road*. Just about all the Villagers were out on the dance floor, when the band played YMCA, our unofficial theme song.

Before the evening was over, we enjoyed after dinner cordials with a special Mickey and Minnie Mouse decorated cake.

Special thanks for our memorable evening go to:

Debbie at *Banner Hallmark*, Annapolis, Lucille at *Carrie's Collectibles* and Claire at *Penn Denn*, Bowie for their donations of the Disney Parks Series Houses.

Debbie at *Banner Hallmark*, Annapolis for donating balloons, wrappings and ribbon trimmings.

*Carrie's & Christmas Goose* for support with the club's purchase of the anniversary presents given to each attendee.

Susan Stock, who is Carole Dietz's friend, for making the delicious and beautiful Mickey and Minnie cake.

Last but by no means least, special thanks also go to Jeannette Grebowsky, Pat Fisher and Bernice Smith for providing the Villagers with a night to remember.

## **A VERY SPECIAL RAFFLE**

### ***Snowbaby Display and Crown and Cricket***

The Villagers' very special raffle is off to a good start. We are holding a raffle on the Snowbaby display and Dickens Village Crown and Cricket Inn, signed by Jeanne Marie Dickens, from the 1997 Mid Atlantic Gathering in Williamsburg.

**RAFFLE (Continued)**

Only 60 tickets will be sold for the Snowbaby display, valued at over \$200, and 60 tickets will be sold for the signed Crown and Cricket. Tickets are \$5 each and will be available at the November meeting. Do not miss out! The drawing will be on December 7 at our Theater Party.

**THE 12 LEVELS OF A D56 COLLECTOR***by***Kreg Burnette**

President of Wright 56'ers of Dayton, Ohio

*(reprinted with permission of the author)*

1. **Casual passerby. Sees the villages, likes them, then gets a load of the prices and says "No way".**
2. **Passerby passes again, this time thinks getting one with a couple of accessories is not to bad for the price.**
3. **Casual buyer returns to that store for their once a year purchase!**
4. **Starts asking for the pieces as Birthday and Christmas presents but refuses to buy them for his/herself.**
5. **Starts buying a few each year after the holidays because can find them on sale (yes, still!), and no family members are getting the hint that this is what he/she wants!**
6. **Layaway! Leaves a slight guilty feeling.**
7. **Has succumbed to buying all of the current pieces, but would never spend money on retired pieces.**
8. **Is just buying the retired pieces on dealer's shelves, or by calling all of the stores around, or stopping at stores during trips.**
9. **Starts on the secondary market by buying retired houses under \$100.**
10. **If not already, has started to purchase other village pieces in their display because they look good together. The problem is that they all start to look good together.**
11. **Starts buying all of the villages and retired pieces. Joins local collector clubs, goes 500 miles to a Gathering, goes to all Swap and Sells that he/she can smell (with their collector nose)!**
12. **Extreme cases only: Divorces non-collector spouse. Starts to only associate with collector friends and puts off house payments for extra Swap and Sell village money. Starts calling D56 company officials by their first names.**

**(Ed. Note: Our thanks to Kreg Burnette, for permission to reprint in the Crier). We hope you enjoyed it!**

**VILLAGERS MAKE DONATIONS TO CHARITY**

During the past year, the Villagers' selected two charities to make donations to with a portion of the funds raised at our Auction. Hospice of the Chesapeake's Bereavement Camp and the YWCA's House of Ruth were selected. \$420 that was earmarked for charity from the auction. Members passed a motion at the September meeting to add an additional for a total of \$500. Plans are now underway for the presentation of the checks to the charities.

**THANK YOU AMERICAN LEGION**

Bill Murphy, on behalf of the Villagers, recently presented Harry Grover, Commander, American Legion, Post 175 with a donation of \$300. The donation was made to the American Legion for providing the Villagers with a meeting place.

**VILLAGERS PLANNING 1998 MEMBER HOUSE TOURS**

Our club will be hosting our annual holiday house tour of member's homes on the weekend of January 9-11. We have four members who have graciously offered to open their homes and we could accommodate at least six open houses. We can have tour hours of 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday would serve as back up day if there are weather problems. Additionally, after the January 13 meeting, John and Pat Ehrenreich will open their home for refreshments and a tour of their villages.

You do not have to have an elaborate display to participate in the House Tour. You just have to have a willingness to open your home and share your ideas. In the past house tours, members had displays in one room of the house or several rooms, in book cases, cabinets or baskets, on table tops or on the floor, small vignettes or large layouts. Each display was different and beautiful.

***New this year on the House Tour. Enter to win prizes at each home you visit.*** When you visit a home on the tour, fill out an entry form for the club's prize drawing. The more homes you visit, the more chances to win. The drawing for the prizes will be held during our visit to the home of John and Pat Ehrenreich.

The December-January edition of the Crier will contain the schedule of the house tours. If you are interested in participating in the House Tour or have any questions, please contact Dean Stevenson at (410) 923-2755.

### BACHMAN'S D56 GATHERING NCC 56 CONVENTION

August 16 and 17 Bernice Smith attended *Bachman's Annual D56 Gathering Event*. During the Gathering, *The National Council of Department 56 Clubs (NCC 56)* held a convention of member clubs. Even without the NCC Convention, Bachman's is a large Gathering. With all the things to see and do at the Gathering and Convention, Bernice graciously managed to find the time to sell our new club hats and tee shirts at the NCC event. She also entered our club, banner, pin, hat and shirt in the *NCC 56* club competition. We are waiting to hear the results of the NCC club contest.

### SOUTHERN REGIONAL GATHERING

*by John & Pat Ehrenreich*

On our way home from vacation, we took an unanticipated detour to spend a day at the Southern Regional Gathering in Atlanta. Having attended all three Mid Atlantic Village Gatherings in Williamsburg and the PA 5-6000 Gathering in Lancaster, we expected the Southern Regional Gathering to be similar and it was. We also realized that each gathering creates its own style and their locations make them unique.

This entire gathering was held under one roof in the beautiful Renaissance Hotel which itself was an attraction. The crowd on Saturday was probably no more than 1,200 people, smaller than either Williamsburg or Lancaster but no less enthusiastic. There were the usual speakers: Judith Price, Lynda Blankenship, Peter George, etc. but also some new speakers and topics. We could see lots of collectors attending a progressive series of three seminars led by Carl & Rita Carter (who teach the wax water classes at the Golden Goose in Occoquan, VA) They demonstrated design and layout techniques through a series of progressive seminars. The result was a complete North Pole display which was one of the event's door prizes. We did take in a very informative seminar discussed photographing your village. Collectors Richard Tuck and Frank Biafore presented seminars showing photo slides of all the collections currently filling their home. They are extraordinary collectors--who collect not just D56 . We only saw a small portion of the presentation but it was evident that there is no way possible to describe their collections and displays and do them justice.

During our one day visit, we did manage to meet and chat with fellow Villager, Ann Falkenhof now of Lake Wales, FL. Ann sends greeting to the membership. Come Saturday evening, we did not stay for the dinner, deciding to head north and home. We totally enjoyed ourselves and glad we made to detour. At this point we realized the last similarity with the other gatherings— we didn't want to leave.

### PRIZES, PRIZES, PRIZES

Anniversary Dinner Dance		
Prize	Winner	Source
Disney Parks Table Centerpieces	John Ogle, JoAnn Bissett, Penny Dvorak, Jack Baldwin	Centerpieces made by Jeanette Grebowsky & Pat Fisher. Houses & accessories donated by Penn Den, Bowie; Carries Collectibles, Crofton; and Banner Hallmark, Annapolis
Large Christmas Tree Ornament	Jack Baldwin	<i>The Touch</i> , Lexington Park
Mountain Scenery	Jeannette Grebowsky	<i>Christmas Goose</i> , Queenstown
Disney Parks Accessory	Bill Murphy	Banner Hallmark, Annapolis
House Charms	Janice Zimmer Stella Angelucci Lynne Murphy Pat Fisher Norma Damico George Barth John Ogle	<i>Carrie's Collectibles</i> , Crofton
Set of Disney Parks Village	Dean Stevenson	<i>Carrie's Collectibles</i> , Crofton
Mylar Balloons	Linda Wallesa, George Barth, Peggy Perry	<i>Banner Hallmark</i> , Annapolis

### PROMOTIONS: PRIZES WANTED

*by Stella Angelucci*

My job as Promotions Chairperson is to coordinate & distribute door prizes, gifts and raffles items throughout the year.

Everyone enjoys receiving these freebies, but many of us are reluctant to solicit dealers. Dealers in our area have been extremely generous and have received club publicity.

Many of you have an established relationship with a dealer that would welcome the opportunity to promote their store through the Annapolis Villagers. Please let your dealer know that you are a member and would appreciate receiving any item, large or small, to be used as prizes for club events. If you receive an item or items, contact me and bring it to the next meeting.

*Dealers, I would be glad to come by and pick up any donations. Just give me a telephone call at 410-647-9496.*

## NEWS FROM DEPARTMENT 56

**ED BAZINET STEPS DOWN****SUSAN ENGEL ELECTED TO TOP POSITION**

A recent *Department 56* press release announced that Ed Bazinet, company founder, asked to step down as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Susan Engel was elected to the top spot. This is nothing new. Mr. Bazinet has been transitioning his duties for the last three years. Ms. Engel joined D56 in 1994 as President and Chief Operating Officer, was appointed to the Board of Directors February 1996 and became Chief Executive Officer in November, 1996. On behalf of *Department 56*, Ms. Engel thanked Mr. Bazinet for "his friendship, leadership and the standards of excellence he established".

**D56 HOT LINES**

D56's *Homes for the Holidays* Hot Line is in full operation. Customers calling 1-888-D56-HOME enter in their zip code and are given the names of the three closest dealers participating in *Homes for the Holidays*. The new Snowbaby Hot Line that we told you about last month is not operational as we go to press. Look for it to open in conjunction with the Snowbaby retirements and event, December 5-7.

**QVC**

Right after we went to press in August, word was out that D56 would be available on QVC, the cable shopping channel, on October 2. Indeed they were. Snowbabies in the morning and Villages in the afternoon. Two more shows are planned in November and/or December. We were unable to confirm dates but watch for Christmas show listings.

**PROFILE SERIES**

D56 recently created a lit building for *State Farm Insurance* to commemorate the company's 75th anniversary. There has been speculation that approximately 50,000 were made for State Farm. It was only available to agents who could purchase no more than 10 up until October 10, 1997. We do not know what State Farm will do if they have any left over, but we are sure that some D56 collectors, especially CICers, would be interested in one. Like last year's *Heinz House*, all Profile series houses are sold through the company who commissions the lit house and not D56. These houses are not part of D56 Villages and will not be sold through D56 dealers.

**Do not forget, there are two retirement dates this year.**

**D56 will make announcements in *USA Today*:**

**November 7: *D56 Villages***

**December 5: *Snowbabies***

**APPLE VALLEY SCHOOL OBSERVATION**

by John Ehrenreich

While preparing the ballot for our retirement contest I made an observation that I find very interesting. The ballot includes each current village piece or Snowbaby and it's corresponding item number. While D56 has never revealed how they arrive at an item number, it is suspected that the numbers are assigned during the design phase of a piece and the piece keeps the assigned number when it goes into production. You can also suspect that blocks of numbers are reserved for each village since numbering appears to follow some pattern over a period of time. An example of this is Alpine Village, where the item number of every piece produced since the release of the *Bahnhof* in 1990 begins with 561 as part of the five digit item number. The fact that some numbers are skipped may mean that a piece was conceived, assigned a number but never was produced for one reason or another. For this reason, it is not surprising to see a gap in Alpine Village between the *Kamm Haus*, Item # 56171 and the *Danube Music Publisher*, Item # 56173.

A similar pattern exists in new England Village where every piece beginning with the release of the *Arlington Falls Church* in 1994 has an item number that begins with 565 -- with **ONE** exception. The *Apple Valley School* has item # 56172, the missing number between the *Kamm Haus* and *Danube Music Publisher*. Could it be that the school, possibly under some other name, was intend for Alpine Village? On examining the school, you will see many design features that are common on other Alpine buildings but not shared with other new England houses. The school has a balanced symmetry with a very high pitched roof that is sloped on all sides and a very high gable over the front door that extends all the way up to the top of the roof. Similar design elements can be found in Alpine's *Bessor Bierkeller*, *Apotheke*, *E. Staubr Backer*, *Kukuck Uhren* and particularly in the *Bahnhof*. Very few other New England Village buildings have such design elements. Was the *Apple Valley School* designed for Alpine Village but switched to New England Village for some reason only known to D56? You will have to be the judge but if you want a school in your Alpine village, *Apple Valley School* may be a good candidate.

**GREENBOOK SECONDARY MARKET GUIDE**

The latest edition of the 1997-1998 *Greenbook Secondary Market Guide for Department 56 Villages*, is out. Price for the new edition is \$19.95. Contact your dealer for more information on availability.

*"This Olde Village  
by "Bob Villager*

Now that the mid year releases are arriving in stores, here are some things to be on the look out for: Be very careful with the CIC Globe Theater. The globe on the top can easily break as you take it in or out of the box.. With its multiple weathervanes, take care handling the NEV Ornamental Iron Works as well.

We recently talked to D56 Consumer Services to ask about the error on the HV Christmas Bazaar: Woolens & Preserves accessory and also The Tower of London. According to D56, the spelling error on Jams and Jellies has been corrected. (*Ed. Note: Will the misspelling be a rarity? We will just have to wait and see.*) As for the Tower, we asked about the confusion among collectors that it would be limited to one year of production. Consumer Services reported that, unlike the Signature Series, the Tower of London would not be limited to one year of production.

Rummaging around the bargain bins recently in *Tuesday Morning*, I found some great magnets at \$1 each of small framed art works. Now, I can plan an Art Exhibition outside the CIC Heritage Museum. They will look great with L and H Miniature's Art Movers. Last year, I found miniature resin fruit baskets in *Joann Fabrics* at 75 cents each for DV. Joann's now has its own Christmas Village on display. Most of the items were too big and not all were well done. However, I found a Puppeteer, Boy Hawking Newspapers and a Woman with a Basket--all at low prices. Each could work in most of the Heritage Villages. For the Disney collectors, *Sears* has a selection of Disney animated items including a Skating Pond with Disney characters. Check out other local stores such as *Caldors, Walmart and Target*, etc. for Christmas items to see what you can use in your village.

I hope you enjoy *L and H Miniatures* at our November 11 meeting. They are one of many companies that make products which really do add life to our villages.

**DISCOUNT AVAILABLE TO CLUB MEMBERS  
FOR WILLAGE MANIA**

*Willage Mania*, by Lynda Blankenship, publisher of *The Dickens Exchange*, combines a history of each D56 village with a secondary market guide. Both the history and secondary market prices are updated annually for retired and new introductions. Regular price for *Willage Mania* is \$42 plus \$5 shipping and handling. If you have an updated book, you only need to buy the 1997 supplement at \$9 plus shipping and handling. When you order through the Villagers, you can save \$5 on either *Willage Mania* or the 1997 supplement. If you are

interested, contact Peter Baer at (410) 867-0086.

**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 Peter Baer at (410)867-0086, E-Mail Peter.Baer@mail.house.gov

**CLUB SHIRTS** — Club shirts, with embroidered our logo, are available in a variety of colors for men or women. Size S to XL is \$20.00 and \$22.00 for XXL. Non Members may order shirts at \$25 and \$27 respectively. Add \$3.00 S&H per shirt for orders that are to be mailed.

**NEW CLUB HATS**--White hat with embroidered club logo and red bill. For men or women, one size fits all. \$8 members and \$10 non members. Add \$2 for each hat 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 Gathering Logos. \$45.00 per set of 3.

**NEW NCC 56 PIN**

**National Council of 56 Clubs Pin**--\$8 per pin introductory price for limited time.. Add \$1 for S & H.

**WISH LIST**

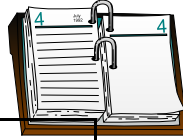
Is there a retired piece you are looking for? Do you have D56 to sell? If the answer is yes to one or both questions, the Villagers' Wish List may be able to help you. Jeannette Grebowsky is the keeper of the wish list. If you are interested in buying or selling, contact her at (301)552-2910. The club is not party to any transaction. We only pass on information provided to the Wish List. It is up to the buyers/sellers to conduct the transaction.

**ATTENTION DEALERS AND MEMBERS**

**If you need *The Annapolis Villagers'* club flyers  
with information and membership applications,**



# CALENDAR



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

contact  
t  
Norm

a Damico (410) 721-3310.

- Oct. 26** *Banner Hallmark*, Annapolis Mall, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Display Event, Door Prizes.
- Nov. 1 - 9** *Dept. 56 1997 Home for the Holidays Event*
- Nov. 7** *Dept.56 Village Retirements Announced*
- Nov.11\*\*\*** *Annapolis Villagers Members Meeting 7p.m.*
- Nov. 8** *Main Street Corner Shoppe*, Laurel. How-To-Do-It Display Tips presented by Larry & Marsha Voight. Call for time and info (301)725-3099.
- Nov. 22** *Main Street Corner Shoppe*, Laurel. Annual Holiday Open House with special store wide sales and refreshments. Call for info (301)725-3099
- Dec. 5 - 7** *Dept. 56 Snowbaby Dealers Event*
- Dec. 5** *D56 Snowbaby Retirements Announced*
- Dec. 5-7** *Great Escapes Tours*, Bensalem, PA presents *A Victorian Christmas with Charles Dickens*. Includes 2 nights accommodations, evening dinner theater presentation of "Broadway Christmas", 2 buffet breakfasts, tickets to *A Victorian Christmas* at Mt. Hope Estate & Winery and *Dutch Indoor Village open house*. \$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 / person for Dinner & Show. Call Lynne Murphy (410) 757-4582 to reserve your place. Payment due by November 11, 1997 members' meeting.
- Dec. 9** *Annapolis Villagers*, Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 1998**
- Jan. 7-9** *Annapolis Villagers Holiday Open House Tour*
- Jan. 13** *Annapolis Villagers Members Meeting 7p.m.*
- May 1-3** *PA 5-6000 Village Gathering*, Lancaster, PA. Guest speakers include Ron Drapeau, Peter & Jeanne George, Judith Price, Lynda Blankenship, Roger Bain, Marianne Moore, Frank Wilson, Allen Black, Matt Storer, Alan & Lynn Wagner and Greg Roth.. Swap & Sell, room

hopping and much more, including Jeanne-Marie Dickens and raffle for Charles Dickens reproduction desk. Call 610-678-7182 or 610-255-0669 for information.

*ED. Note: Information in the calendar is provided as a service. Event information may be subject to change. Please verify date, time, information, etc. with event sponsor prior to event.*

## DIRECTIONS TO MEETINGS HELD AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 175

\*\*\*\*\*Unless otherwise noted, all *Annapolis Villager Members' Meetings and Board Meetings* are held at American Legion, Post 175 and meetings start at 7 P. M.



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 than an immediate left onto Manhattan Beach Road. Proceed as above.

### FROM THE EDITOR.....

*We hope you enjoyed this edition of the Crier. We look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting with L and H Miniatures.*

**Happy Collecting!**  
*Pat Ehrenreich*

Deadline for December-January is December 9. Please send your items of interest so that they are received by December 9.

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

**You can reach the village crier on line by Email:**  
**news56@aol.com**  
with questions, comments, articles, etc.