



# The Village Press

The Village Landlords Newsletter



**Next Meeting is February 27th, 2:15pm at Champion's Hall  
6601 Blvd of Champions, North Lauderdale, FL 33068**

**February 2011**

## Village Landlord Current Board

<b>Bob Obenland</b> President	561-752-0450
<b>Chris Barrett</b> Vice President	954-943-9682
<b>Gene Armeno</b> 2nd Vice President	954-969-0041
<b>Peggy Mead</b> Treasurer Membership	954-974-8271
<b>Bonnie Eichholtz</b> Secretary	954-972-5045
<b>Jerry Fernon</b> Programs	954-753-5953
<b>Gisela Gaspar</b> Membership Publicity	954-600-3519
<b>Peggy Layton</b> Hospitality	954-476-1210
<b>Norman Barrett</b> Parliamentarian	954-943-9682
<b>Jeffery Kirchner</b> Webmaster	954-529-6330
<b>Jonathan Stout</b> Newsletter	954-434-6560

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## News From the President

by: **Bob Obenland**



With the start of a new year it is Dues Time again. If you have not been able to pay your 2011 dues you can pay at the February meeting or send to our address below. Individual membership is \$15 and family is \$25.

**The Village Landlords  
P.O. Box 670093  
Coral Springs, FL 33067**

Remember, the March meeting will be our picnic so please fill out the enclosed form and send it in or see Peggy at the February meeting.

This month Jerry has a little project for you that you can add to your village.

We'd like to thank Felix Cruz, our Department 56 Rep, for his talk at the January meeting, about the company and all the new products for this year. He

had just been in Atlanta so he had all the new information. You can see the new Village items on the D56 website. I also received a copy of the new book and circulated it at the January meeting. He indicated that D56 has sent the books out much faster than in prior years so you should be finding them at the dealers.



If you are unable to find Village, Snowbabies and Possible Dreams brochures at your local retail store, Department 56 has a good stock available for sale. The Village (99 pages) and

Snowbabies (58 pages) brochures will each sell for \$4.50 plus shipping. The Possible Dreams (43 pages) brochure is \$5.95. To place an order that will ship immediately, call 1(800) 548-8696 any weekday between 11 AM and 2 PM central standard time.

Department 56 is again looking for a Collector of the Year. We have included the requirements in the newsletter so be thinking of whom in our club you would like to nominate. The deadline is March 31st and the winner will be announced at the Gathering in Arizona this September. We will vote on our nominee at the February meeting.

We hope to see you at the February meeting. Please note that we will be meeting at the new meeting hall, see the map at the end of the newsletter.

## Collector of the Year Contest

by: **Bob Obenland**



Dept. 56/Enesco will be sponsoring the "Collector of the Year" contest. The deadline for entries is March 31st. They request that you send just one digital photo along with a write-up (one hundred words) about your collection by email to [mslittown@department56.com](mailto:mslittown@department56.com). Please include the name, regular mailing address, club name and what Village is represented. You can nominate yourself, a relative or friend or fellow club member (in case they're too shy to nominate themselves). Dept 56 will post some of the finalists (chosen by their Creative Team) on the Dept. 56 web site in the COLLECTING SECTION. So, who do **you** know that would make a great Collector of the Year? The deadline is approaching!



## Our Next Meeting

by: Jerry Fernon

### Make and Take Street Light

Parts needed for 1 light (to be supplied as a kit):

- 1 Specula / Straw Assembly
- 1 Wirenut / Plastic Lens
- 1 Christmas Light
- 1 2.5 mm Sub Mini Jack

Please bring with you:

- 1 Cover



**Pic 1:** Cover—Please bring with you to the meeting

This "make and take" has been partially made due to the unavailability of certain elements used in the prototype. Your input for the meeting will be to bring the "cover" (**Pic 1**). This can be

found when you buy the "Publix" or "Land-o-Lakes" brand Half & Half cream. I will paint them black when we arrive at the meeting. I mentioned at the last meeting that you were challenged to find another

"cover" that would be suitable. It should be approximately 1" in diameter. We will also add a connector (**Pic 2**) so that you will be able to plug in a D56 2.5 volt "wall wort" #55026 (**Pic 3**) to add power to your street light. This requires soldering 2 wires. I will ask for volun-

teers to solder. If you have a soldering iron please



**Pic 2:** Connector



**Pic 3:** D56 2.5 Volt Power Supply



bring it. I think this project will be a "highlight" (pun intended) to any village. You may want to paint it different for North Pole. Even Dickens Village had lights, you just have to imagine it as a candle.



### CROSS STITCH CUPBOARD

1600 NORTHEAST 26TH STREET  
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33305

954-563-6363

1-800-752-4153



## January Meeting Highlights

by: **Bonnie Eichholtz**

If you missed the January meeting, here is what you need to know!

We have club shirts for sale at \$20 each, and Gisela has NCC items for sale.

Chris Barrett read a "thank you" letter from the Ronald McDonald House for the holiday display we put together for them and for all our support. They greatly appreciate us as friends of the Ronald McDonald House.

Bob asked membership, on behalf of Gene Armeno, if anyone had room in their garage for storage of club items. Nobody seemed to have any. Go figure!

We had four new and returning members. Dues and picnic fees can be paid at the meeting, or be mailed to club address.

Jerry announced Felix Cruz, from Dept.56, as our guest speaker. He also said membership could sell and swap items during the break.

We had eleven holiday open houses. Bob said membership should try and attend because it is a good way of getting new ideas and the fellowship is great.

Bob said anyone can get the new D-56 catalog from D-56 if you cannot find them at the local dealers. He asked if the club would want to get together and order in bulk. The catalogs are \$4.50.



**The Silver Sleigh**

A Unique Holiday Shoppe  
Christmas • Flowers • Gifts

**The Silver Sleigh**  
**1319 East Sample Road**  
**Pompano Beach, FL 33064**  
**(954) 943-4388**

Anyone having a plan may enter the Village D-Lights/ NCC Display Contest -. Each club may have one entry. Pictures must be taken of the progress as the display is built. Contact Bob if interested. Deadline is February 28th.

The nominating committee consisted of one Board Member, Chris Barrett, and two club members, Barbie Long and Jackie Cramer. The offices of Gene Armeno, 2nd VP, Gisela Gaspar,

Membership and Jerry Fernon, Programs are up for election. If nobody runs on the ballot, the three present ones have agreed to stay in office. They were all elected as per the slate!

A discussion was brought to the floor for obtaining web-site domain name registration and a new server for two years from Network Solutions at a rate of \$164.78. Jonathan Stout will help setup the website.

Roseann Abrams has agreed to be the new caretaker of the website. A motion was made to accept the above by George Fells, Seconded by Charlie Heisinger. Motion carried.

After the break, Felix Cruz spoke on what is new with D-56. He said it looks like the stores had a good year in retail. D-56 still has the same designers.

Enesco has allowed D-56 to be their own company. He said the new books are available at the dealers and also by calling Miss Lit Town. He informed us of the new buildings in each village for the New Year.

### Door Prizes:

Set of Trees and Snow-**Chris Barrett**

Hot Wire-**Elaine Smith**

Bright Lights Santa-**Gisela Gaspar**

Set of 6 Street Lamps-**Josephine Armeno**

Stone Walls-**Kathy Krepp**

Trash Cans and Fire Hydrant-**Joe McPhillips**

Williamsburg Event Piece-**Palma Ivy**

Santa's New Sleigh Design-**Nancy Fernon**

Set of Trees and Snow-**Marlene Bretl**

Snowman Street Lights-**Pat Piccin**

Halloween Backdrop-**Mike Abrams**

### Raffle Prizes

One Village Place 2001 Event Piece-**Charlie Heisinger**

SV On The Road Again-**Dottie Winzel**

William S Berg Snowman Event Piece-**Norm Barrett**

SV Angels in the Snow-**Pat Piccin**

Winter Trimmings-**Marlene Bretl**

Pine Creek Hunting Lodge-**Mike Abrams**

Mystery House

NP Dormitory for Elves Hatly Hall-**Peggy Mead**





## The Treasury Report

by: **Peggy Mead**

Treasurers Report for  
January, 2011.

Beginning Balance \$3,231.89

### Deposits

Advertising	\$ 60.00
Membership	\$525.00
Picnic	\$120.00
Raffle	\$155.00

Total Deposits \$860.00

### Expenses

Meeting	\$ 30.00
Website	\$164.78
Refreshments	\$ 14.48
Stamps	\$ 8.80

Total Expenses \$218.06

Ending Balance \$3873.83

Raffle Bank \$50.00  
\$3923.83



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## Hospitality Helpers

by: **Peggy Layton**

I hope everyone had a wonderful Valentines day, and that cupid was good to you.

Here is a list of the people bringing goodies to February's meeting:

Nancy Fernon  
Kathy Tavernia  
Susan Roberts  
Joe McPhillips  
Joan Heinsinger  
Jackie Cramer  
Peggy Layton  
Debbie King

**Joe McPhillips has offered to bring the Ice, Soda and water for the February meeting. Thanks Joe!**

Here's a nice dish in honor of all our Irish friends - or those who would like to be Irish!!!!!!



### Irish Beef Stew

1-1/2 lb. boneless beef round steak, trimmed into bite-size pieces  
2 Tbsp. flour  
2 Tbsp. oil  
1 large onion, coarsely chopped  
1 can (14 -1/2 oz.) beef broth  
1 can (14-1/2 oz.) stewed tomatoes, undrained  
1 envelope. (0.8 oz.) GOOD SEASONS Garlic & Herb Dressing Mix  
1 lb. red potatoes (about 3), cut into 3/4 inch chunks  
3 carrots (6-1/2 oz.), cut into 1/2 inch-thick slices  
3 cups hot cooked noodles

Coat meat with flour. Heat oil in Dutch oven or large deep skillet on medium-high heat. Add meat and onions; cook and stir until browned. Stir in broth, tomatoes and dressing mix. Bring to boil, stirring occasionally; cover. Simmer on low heat 15 min., stirring occasionally.

Add potatoes and carrots; simmer, covered, 45 min. or until meat is tender and sauce is thickened, uncovering after 30 min. and stirring occasionally. Serve over noodles. Makes 6 servings.



## Membership Insider

by: Gisela Gaspar

### 2011 Dues are Due!

How time flies! It's time to pay our 2011 dues! Dues are \$15 per person or \$25 per family. If you joined in September or later no dues are required at this time.

Please pay at the February meeting or send to our mailbox if you cannot make the meeting. The address is noted here.

**The Village Landlords  
P. O. Box 670093  
Coral Springs, FL 33067**

We have 58 PAID Members. Please **RENEW**  
Today for 2011

*Agustin Barchuk*

*Terri Barchuk*

### Terri's Cards & Gifts

1357 W. Palmetto Park Rd.  
Boca Raton, FL 33486

Tel: (561) 391-3410  
Fax: (561) 391-7987



## Every Collector Has a Story

by: Gisela C. Suarez

Carlos always talked to me and his children about his childhood train set and village back in Cuba. He related how he spent hours building the houses himself and painting the little people to create a city around his electric train set.



I do not remember exactly the year that his parents gave him, as a Christmas present, three small ceramic houses. The same year I gave him a train set. Carlos placed the three little houses under the Christmas tree surrounded by the train trying to recreate his childhood memories, with the

difference that this village had snow, chimneys, and deer, none of these found in Cuba.

Suddenly he was looking for houses and people to add to the village, and the second year, the village was built under, over and around the living room table. I do not remember how or when it moved to our dining room. Soon I was contaminated with his enthusiasm. We visit-

ed places like Diamond's, Christmas Palace, and an ACE Hardware in South Miami, looking for ideas and bargains.

Carlos' finest find happened to be at the Red, White and Blue Thrift Store in Hialeah. We purchased four pieces, all Department 56, among them my favorite, Heritage Village, Dickens's Collection Stars and Stripes Gazebo. It is every year that I build the city park around this piece. We were beginners, still unaware of the importance and splendor of Department 56. Then, in the early 2000's, a family member met a former member of the Village's Landlords and we learned of the club. We attended a first meeting and the rest is history.



Every year we occupy the dining room from the last weekend in November to the second week in January. Three large tables depict a wonderful scenic panorama

created by our flight of imagination. It has become the awe and admiration of family and visitors. We take pleasure in learning new ideas during club meetings. We use them to create a winter wonderland to share during the Holiday Season, but most of all we get the benefit of working together in a joint pastime that we both enjoy.

# 6th Annual Village Landlord Picnic Scheduled for Sunday, March 27th!



by: **Bonnie Eichholtz**

On March 27th (lunch is served at 12:30 pm) we will be having our Sixth Annual Village Landlords Club Picnic and meeting. Those who attended last year can attest to how much fun it was, and how delicious the food was.

Below is a form for you to complete and turn it at the February meeting indicating you will be attending and the number of guests you will be bringing. The cost is \$10 per person.



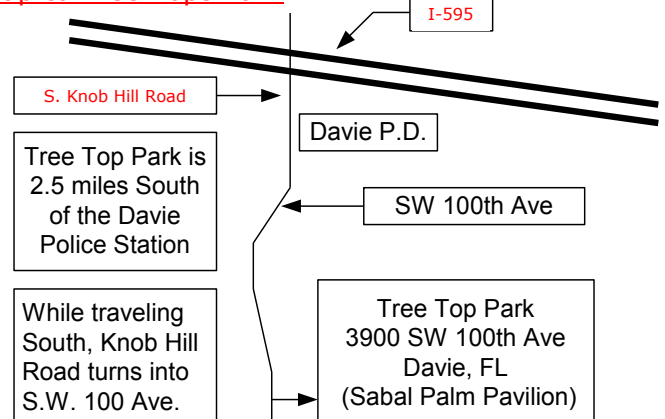
As we did last year, we ask that you bring a covered dish. If you will not be at the meeting, please mail the form to **Peggy Mead**. She must have it no later than March 10th.

Please choose a covered dish to bring from the three categories of salad, side or dessert so **Bonnie Eichholtz** can coordinate

what everyone is contributing. Please remember to bring any plates, dishes and serving utensils necessary for your dish. And don't forget to take them back home afterwards.



## Map to Tree Tops Park



### SIXTH ANNUAL VILLAGE LANDLORDS PICNIC

**Sunday, March 27, 2011 – Tree Tops Park**

Pot Luck – Club to Supply Chicken Wings and Spiral Ham

Cost \$10.00 Per Person  
Make Check Payable to Village Landlords  
and Mail by March 10th to:

**Peggy Mead**  
**4051 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Coconut Creek, FL 33066**

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10/Each = \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Total Enclosed)

Covered Dish you will bring: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Members Attending:	Names of Guests Attending:





**SOS CHILDREN'S  
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**CHILDREN  
& FAMILIES**

Healing, Hope and Home for Every Child

September 23, 2010

Mr. Bob Obenland  
Village Landlords  
P.O. Box 670093  
Coral Springs, FL 33067

*Thank you for caring  
about our children and  
helping us give them a better  
life.*

Dear Mr Obenland & Members,

Fall is a wonderful time at SOS, our children are back in school, tutoring is starting once again and we have safely delivered our graduates to their new apartments and college dorms for the beginning of their higher education.

Today, SOS is home to 71 children and we are eagerly anticipating the arrival of more boys and girls by the end of the month. From one year-old Grace to 18 year-old Sheila, our children's needs are greater than ever. It takes a lot to raise these boys and girls, to assure them stability and nurturing. We are looking forward to seeing them thrive this fall, whether it is in the classroom, on the football field, during their extracurricular activities, or even at home.

These family moments and successes continue to be made possible because of you and your dedication to our Village and our children. Your gift of \$500.00 means so much to us. On behalf of our children, thank you for caring for our boys and girls and making childhood special.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Zirlnick  
Chief Executive Officer

Your total gift benefits our children. For tax purposes, we acknowledge that you received no goods or services in exchange for this gift.

## Upcoming Events



- 02/27 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm
- 03/15 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 03/27 — 6th Annual Picnic and VL Meeting at noon!
- 04/05 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 04/17 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm

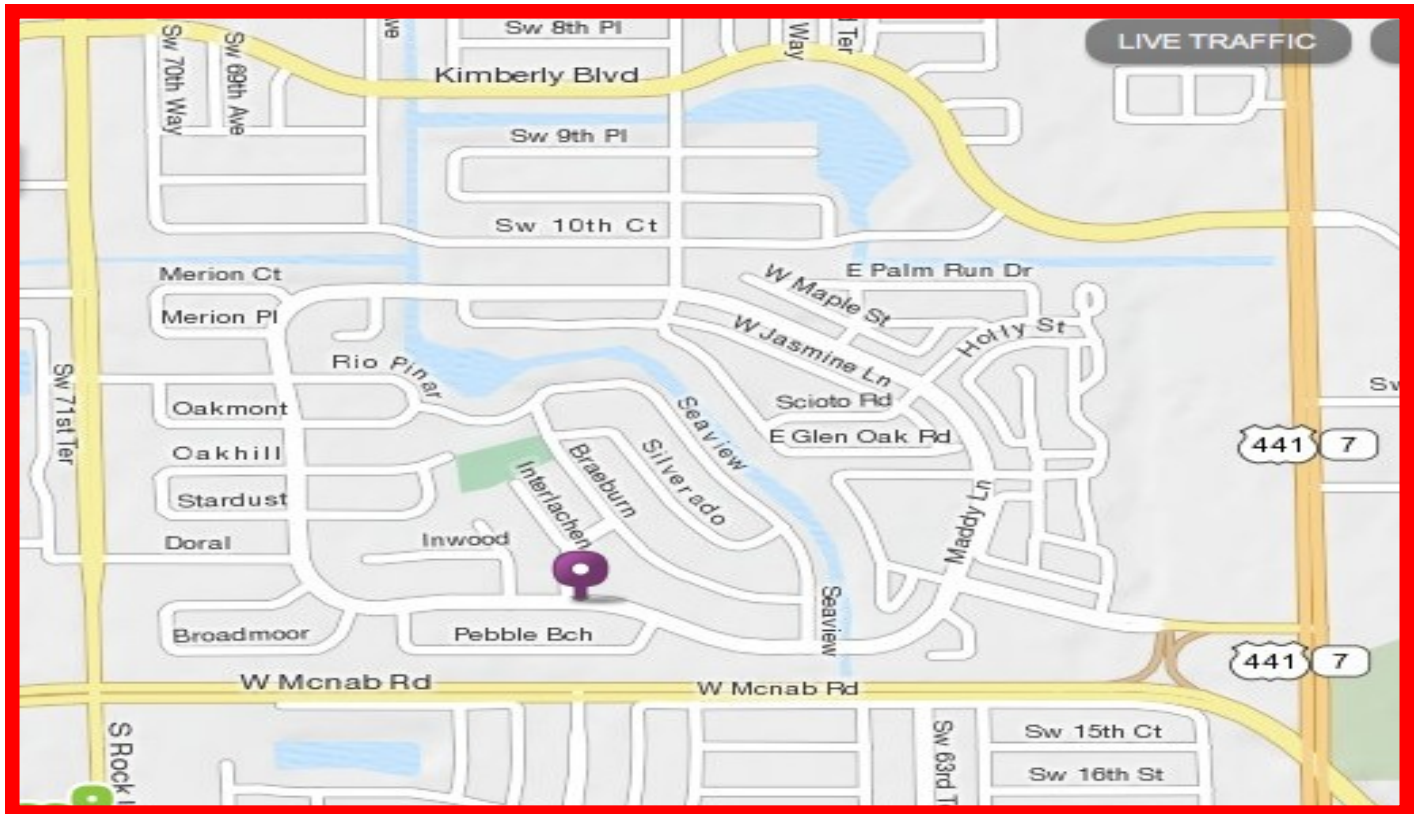


Phone: 954-529-



[Map to the NEW site for the Village Landlords Meeting Location](#)

**New Meeting Location: Champion's Hall**  
**6601 Blvd of Champions, North Lauderdale, FL 33068**



### VILLAGE LANDLORDS

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Membership year is from January 1st—December 31. All information is confidential and used for club purposes only. Please fill out application and return along with the membership fee of \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per family. Make checks payable to **The Village Landlords, P. O. Box 670093 Coral Springs, FL 33067**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

What year did you start collecting? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in hosting a Christmas House Tour in December or January?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Possibly ☐ Need more information

What activities would you be interested in seeing at the meetings?

☐ Display Techniques ☐ Guest Speakers ☐ Social Events ☐ Workshops

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

### What do you collect?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Dickens' Village
- \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas in the City
- \_\_\_\_\_ New England Village
- \_\_\_\_\_ Snow Village
- \_\_\_\_\_ North Pole
- \_\_\_\_\_ Alpine Village
- \_\_\_\_\_ Snowbabies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Snowbunnies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Silhouette
- \_\_\_\_\_ Little Town of Bethlehem
- \_\_\_\_\_ Seasons Bay

Other \_\_\_\_\_