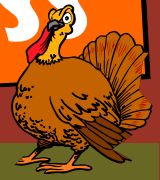




THE VILLAGE PRESS

The Village Landlords Newsletter



Next Meeting is November 20th, 2:15pm City Hall Aquatic Center, 701 SW 71st Avenue, North Lauderdale, 33068

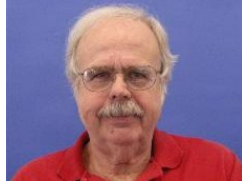
November 2011

Village Landlord Current Board

Bob Obenland President	561-752-0450
Chris Barrett Vice President	954-943-9682
Gene Armeno 2nd Vice President	954-969-0041
Peggy Mead Treasurer Membership	954-974-8271
Bonnie Eichholtz Secretary	954-972-5045
Jerry Fernon Programs	954-753-5953
Gisela Gaspar Membership Publicity	954-600-3519
Peggy Layton Hospitality	954-476-1210
Norman Barrett Parliamentarian	954-943-9682
Roseann Abrams Webmaster	954-254-4365
Jonathan Stout Newsletter	786-258-3806

News From the President

by: Bob Obenland



Last weekend was retirement weekend. You can get the total list on the Department 56 website. Click on the 2011 PRODUCT RETIREMENT LISTS for the PDF file. (or click [HERE](#)).



At the October meeting charity donations of \$750 each for Ronald McDonald House and the SOS Children's Village was proposed and past. Chris delivered the check to the Ronald McDonald House and Peggy Mead took the check to the SOS Children's Village. Peggy found that all donations in November and December to the SOS Children's Village are being matched by another donor so our \$750 turned into \$1500.

It's time to start thinking about House Tours for this Holiday Season. So far we have five tours for our



Christmas House Tours with three more possible. Please be thinking if and when you would like to have an Open House. We will be taking names at the November meetings. If you are unable to make the meeting you can call me (561-752-0450,) or e-mail me at my AOL account, obenland@aol.com. These tours are a lot of fun and gives you more ideas on displaying your village.

It will be time to vote on officers for the upcoming year. The following people volunteered for the New Board:

President
Bob Obenland
Vice President
Chris Barrett
Secretary
Joe McPhillips
Treasurer
Peggy Mead
Hospitality

Bonnie Eichholtz and Josephine Armeno

These nominees will be presented at the November meeting along with any other members who would like to volunteer. A vote or a motion will be made to accept the new board then.

Finally, I'd like to again congratulate Bonnie Eichholtz for winning the Department 56 Collector of the Year awarded. Since Bonnie's was not at the last meeting when we announced she won I'd like to remind you so you can congratulate her at the November meeting.

We hope to see you at the November meeting and bring lots of toys (for tots).

Inside this issue:

News from the President	1
Our Next Meeting	2
October Meeting Highlights	3
The Treasury Report	4
Hospitality Helpers	4
Membership Insider	5
Member Survey	5
Ronald McDonald House	6
S.O.S. Children's Village	7
Membership Application	8
Map to our Meeting Site	8
Upcoming Events	9





Our Next Meeting

by: Jerry Fernon



It's that time of year that the Village Landlords get motivated to start collecting the toys for "Toys for Tots". Times are more difficult for a lot of us but stop and think about that and know that the "Tots" who had little before have even less now. Open your wallets and show them that we understand at least part of their situation. Show the "love". Know that for every \$10.00 or more spent on a gift you will receive a ticket for a chance to win a house. We all want that! Just like trees—you can never have too many houses. In that endeavor I have been to the "Christmas Palace" and secured a Williamsburg piece called "R. Charlton's Coffee House".



Bill Merrill, along with David (left) and Chris (right) were very supportive of the Village Landlords

in our efforts toward "Toys for Tots". If you haven't been to the Christmas Palace recently you must go. Carlos has produced a remarkable display that everyone would envy.

While I was there I asked Bill if we could have Carlos come to our January meeting and do something for us. He immediately agreed and said they would be happy to send Carlos. So stand by for an excellent day with a very talented man.

I have also visited "Cross Stitch Cupboard" and Karen has promised us a house and will notify me when it is available. Let's make this year a good one for the "tots"

Grinch Gift Exchange — Yes, it is better to give than receive, but it is more *fun* to be a Grinch! The Grinch Gift is to be a new \$20.00 gift - village or holiday related and gift wrapped. The game is fun because each person gets to select a wrapped gift, unwrap it and then possibly lose it to someone else and have to select again. The suspense of being able to select from unwrapped gifts or "steal" a gift that someone is holding is what makes the game so much fun.

HERE ARE RULES:

Each person bringing a gift will be given a ticket and the stub will be placed in the container. The Host will draw the first ticket from the container and that person (number 1) will select a gift from the table and unwrap the gift. Number 1 will then draw another ticket from the container and that person (number 2) can either select a wrapped gift and unwrap it OR choose the unwrapped gift from number 1. If number 1's gift is taken, then number 1 must go to the table and select another wrapped gift, unwrap it and draw another ticket for the next person (number 3). Number 3 then has the choice of gifts from either number 1 or



number 2 or selecting a wrapped gift from the table. If an unwrapped gift is selected, then that person goes to the table and selects a wrapped gift. If a person's gift is stolen then he/she must go to the table and pick another wrapped gift.

The game continues until every wrapped gift has been selected. Then number one has the opportunity to select again, by taking someone else's gift if they want to, but they are not required to do so. That one forced trade is allowed. The game is over. Free trading among players is allowed after the game is over.

Don't be afraid to swipe a gift from someone else. The more takeaways and turnovers there are, the more fun the game seems to be. Some of the best times have been when a particular gift gets swiped several times. There are always lots of laughs and sometimes gifts get swiped just for the fun of it.





October Meeting Highlights

by: **Chris Barrett**

Bob talked about Bonnie being named Collector of The Year by Department 56.

Unfortunately Bonnie was not at the meeting as she and Ron were enjoying vacation time up north. Dottie Winzell was at the Happy Trails Gathering in Phoenix and was at the breakfast when it was announced that Bonnie had won. She said all clubs from Canada and the US submitted entries and it was narrowed down to 10. They showed pictures of the 10 finalists. D56 artists selected the winner. Getting permission from Melinda of D56, Dottie immediately called Chris Barrett who immediately called Bonnie to inform her. Who needs the Internet? Dottie spoke further about the Happy Trails saying it was held at a resort rather than a hotel and was spread out. They had about 370 attending. Gerald Dickens, great, great grandson of Charles Dickens, performed.

Jonathan talked about Facebook, saying Gisela did a fantastic job with it and urged members to sign up. Peggy Mead talked about S.O.S. Children's Village. Peggy, Josephine Armeno, Bonnie Eichholtz and Chris attended a "Thank You" luncheon at the Ritz Carlton Hotel on Fort Lauderdale Beach. Peggy explained that S.O.S. is a foster care neighborhood in Coconut Creek. The tree-lined street has twelve homes, housing up to seventy-five foster children. The Village allows for brothers and sisters, who are typically separated while in foster care, to reunite and maintain their family connection. SOS also provides an After Care program to help young adults' transition out of foster care after they turn eighteen. The current foster care system strives to ensure that "no child grows up in foster care."

Bob advised that the Board approved an increase in our donations to each of the charities, S.O.S. and The Ronald McDonald House of Fort Lauderdale from \$500 to

\$750. A motion was made to donate \$750 to each charity by George Fells and was seconded by Norman Barrett. A Nominating committee was formed of board member Chris Barrett, and Nancy Fernon and Debbie King from general membership. Positions up for election: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. A slate will be announced at the November meeting. If no other members wish to have their name added to the slate, a motion will be made to accept the slate presented.

Jerry Fernon talked about the great response we had with the display contest. There were 14 displays entered, with members using the items made during the September Make 'N Take. Jerry had each person who entered a display talk about how they put it together. Jerry passed out a Newsletter Survey for all to complete and hand in at the next meeting.

The Heinsinger's brought a fall decoration they had made, and Jerry asked how many people would like to make it at the September 2012 meeting. He had a good response. George Fells volunteered to bring the Palm Fronds and Jerry will pick up the other items needed. And that is what you missed at the October Meeting!



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THE PRIZE CLOSET

Display Contest Winners:

1st Prize — Costume Parade

Susan Roberts

2nd Prize – Let's Swing

Gisela Suarez

3rd Prize – Gumdrop Road

Mei-Hua Paige

Firemen's Memorial Auction:

Chris Barrett

Door Prizes:

Set of Trees – **Gail Reynolds**

Set of 2 Wall and Fence –

George Fells

Dept. 56 Hat – **Rosemary DeJesus**

Set of 4 Birch Fence – **Marlene Bretl**

Williamsburg Event Piece –

Joe McPhillips

Double Street Lamps – **Pat Piccin**

SV Woody Station Wagon –

Charlie Heinsinger

Ed NCC Snowman – **Elaine Smith**

Set of Trees – **Mei-Hua Paige**

Lego Brick Lift – **Fran Biedinger**

Catalog D-56 – **Bill Shields**

Raffle Prizes:

Shaking Graveyard – **Debbie King**

Creep Creek Carriage House –

Marlene Bretl

Jack's Umbrella Shop –

Mei-Hua Paige

Dept. 56 25th Anniversary Village

Express Van – **Pat Piccin**

Building the Scarecrow –

Peggy Layton

Candy Cane Stool – Dan Layton

Mystery House: DV - Gunnersbury

Park Folly – **Peggy Layton**

Special Raffle: CIC - Cathedral of St.

Nicholas – **Mark Reynolds**



The Treasury Report

by: Peggy Mead

Treasurer's Report	October 2011
Beginning Balance	\$3,857.20
Deposits	
Membership	\$ 65.00
Raffle	\$ 120.00
Special Raffle	\$ 104.00
Special Auction	\$ 25.00
Advertising Income	\$ 60.00
Total Deposits	\$ 374.00
Expenses	
Donations	\$1,500.00
Refreshments	\$ 38.10
Total Expenses	\$ 1538.10
Ending Balance	\$2,693.10
raffle bank	\$ 50.00
	\$2,743.10



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Hospitality Helpers

by: Peggy Layton

A big thank you to all those who brought "goodies" to the October meeting. Hope everyone enjoyed the "20th Anniversary Cake" supplied by the Club. Here is a list of people who volunteered to bring desserts/snacks to the November meeting:

Gail Reynolds
Joan Heinsinger
Joe McPhillips
Fran Biedinger
Debbie King
Rosemary DeJesus
Guenther Heil
Pat Piccin

Carlos & Gisela Suarez will be bringing the beverages. Just a note: Those of you who volunteer to bring the beverages, please keep all your receipts, as you

will be reimbursed.

I have included a wonderful dessert for our upcoming holiday. Enjoy and have a great THANKSGIVING!

Spicy Pumpkin Cake with Chocolate Chunks

1pkg. (2 layer size) spice cake mix
1 pkg. (8oz.) PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened, divided
1 cup canned pumpkin
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. ground ginger
6 squares BAKERS Semi-Sweet Choc., coarsely chopped or mini chips
1/2 cup thawed COOL WHIP Whipped Topping
2 Tbsp. sugar

Preheat oven to 350. Prepare cake mix as directed on package, reducing water to 1/2 cup and increasing oil to 1/2 cup. Use half of the cream cheese, then add the pumpkin, cinnamon and ginger. Beat on medium speed until well blended. Stir in chopped chocolate or morsels.

Pour into greased 12 cup fluted tube pan or 10 inch tube pan.

Bake 40 to 45 min. or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 min. Remove from pan; cool completely on wire rack.

Mix remaining cream cheese, whipped topping and sugar until well blended. Spread on top of cooled cake. Cut into 16 slices to serve.





Membership Insider

by: **Gisela Gaspar**

88 Members and still growing!

Hello everyone! By now, all of our advertisers have had their annual sales and demonstrations. Hopefully most of you all have taken down your Halloween Villages and have started on your Holiday ones. We had board members present at various advertiser events and have signed up a few new members.



We have also taken our FACEBOOK page to a new level! We currently have over 50 Likes, which in turn means we have 50 people on the internet interested and looking at our page and our club!

I have set up EVENTS on the FACEBOOK page to keep the club as current as possible. So far this month, I have added pictures of our charity contribution to the SOS Children's fund and of the King and Fresquez Halloween Open Houses. I have listed the 2011 Department 56 Retirement list and photographs of the various advertiser contributions for Toys for Tots. Please check the page often, as I try to upload new pictures and information daily. I have also uploaded a few videos of village ideas I have been gathering.

If you need help with FACEBOOK, please just let me

know. Call me or just mention it to me when you see me at the general meetings. Be sure to let all of your friends and family know that we are on FACEBOOK! Word of mouth is the best way to attract new members and a new found love for collecting Department 56. We

have had other collectors from all over the world look at our page. One of them even placed pictures of his village on our site! Our photography portion is growing by leaps and bounds! Make sure you have a look! You might find a new idea that you can incorporate into your own village.

If you have any photographs of your village that you would like added to our FACEBOOK page, please email them to me or hand me your actual photographs! Thank you to the ones that have already made the FACEBOOK page a success! For anyone that has a Smartphone, I have added a QR Code that can be scanned and the information will lead back to our FACEBOOK page.



Below is a small survey we would like you to fill out. We just might do an article about you and your village!

THE VILLAGE LANDLORDS NEWSLETTER SURVEY

NAME: _____ HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER _____

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE VILLAGE TO COLLECT? AND WHY?

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST PIECE YOU EVER COLLECTED?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PIECE IN YOUR COLLECTION AND WHY? (ITS OKAY TO HAVE SEVERAL)

HAVE YOU EVER WON A DOOR PRIZE? YES OR NO. WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE DOOR PRIZE YOU WON?

Do you have any pictures you would like the club to see of your holiday creations? Please submit them in person to Jonathan or Gisela or they can also be emailed to us at jstout@pdmiami.com or giselagaspar@aol.com



Ronald McDonald House

by: Jerry Fernon

Our "team" consisting of Joe McPhillips (our leader), Norm and Chris Barrett, Gene Armeno, Nancy and Jerry Fernon and Marlene Bretl put up the Ronald McDonald house display on Sunday Nov.6 2011.

We have been doing this for several years now and look forward to seeing the bright smiles of the children who otherwise have little to smile about. We all feel very gratified when we see the wonderment in those faces.



Another function was going on so we were not able to see any of the residents. That was disappointing but two of the managers came in and another guest. Their reactions were of amazement and glee. The guest said "I'm getting chills all over looking at this beautiful display". Short of watching the little one I guess that will do. The team had a good day.

You may see the display if you attend "the 8th annual home for the holidays" gala at Ronald McDonald House on



Dec. 3, 2011 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. I urge you to attend. If you have not been to one you have no idea of the amount of "quality" food/deserts that is available. Chefs from area restaurants serve their best. There are raffles galore, silent auctions and entertainment. Well worth the \$20.00 per person admission and all for a great cause. Lets see how many smiling faces the Village Landlords can bring this year!



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S O S Children's Village

by: Peggy Mead

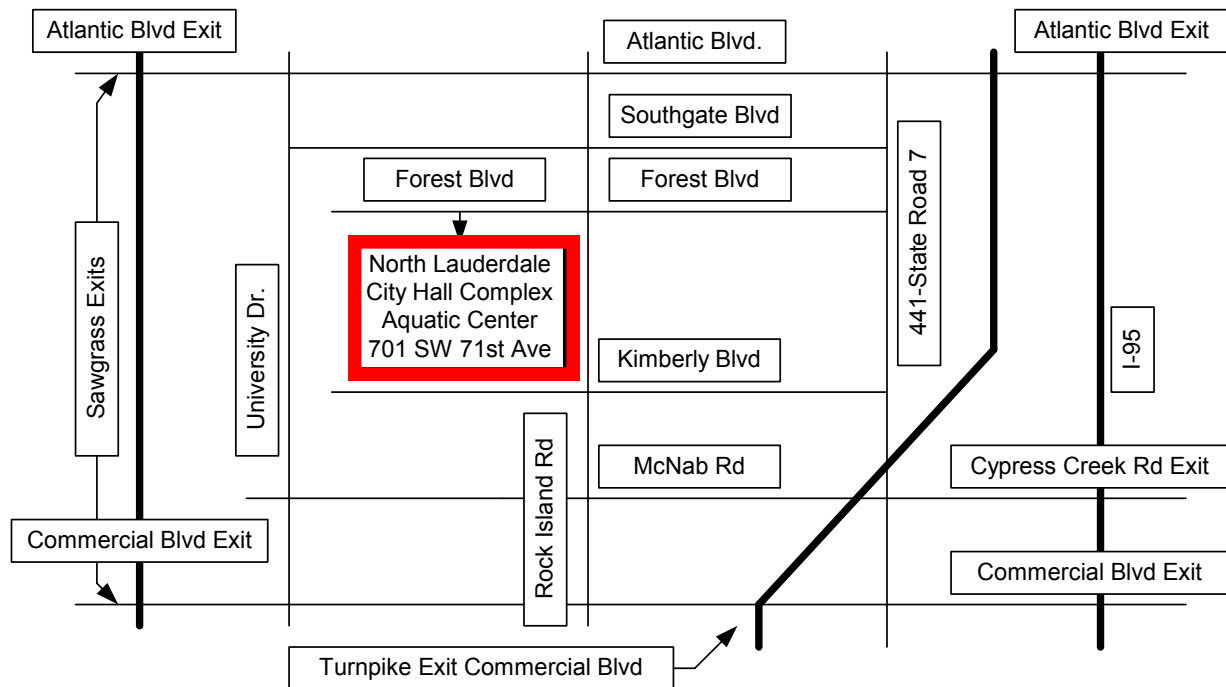
Our club has once again sponsored a very worthy cause this year, the SOS Children's Village. I presented our check to Vickie

Walter who is the Community Relations Manager for SOS Children's Villages, Florida, here in Coconut Creek. The pictures are of the children's homes in the Village. I took some facing east and some facing west. The building with the palm lined walkway and the basketball hoop is their recreation building. The building with the sign is their administration building. It is a lovely quiet residential neighborhood. As I mentioned earlier, our donation will be matched by another donor that is matching all donations received in months of November and December.

Thank you Landlords. Your donation will make a great difference in the lives of those who will be our next generation.



Map to the NEW site for the Village Landlords Meeting Location



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 _____



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1-800-752-4153

Upcoming Events



- 11/20 — Village Landlords General Meeting (OLD Location)
- 11/23 — The Christmas Palace, Fort Lauderdale 1-5pm
- 12/04 — Susan and Tom Shetler Open House, 6pm
- 12/17 — Joe and Kathy McPhillips Open House
- 01/03 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 01/07 — Dan & Peggy Layton
- 01/14 — Bill & Debbie King

The full Open House schedule will be published soon.

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