



The Village Press

The Village Landlords Newsletter

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

**Next Meeting is January 22nd, 2:15pm at Champion's Hall
6601 Blvd of Champions, North Lauderdale, FL 33068**

January 2012

Village Landlord Current Board

Bob Obenland 561-752-0450
President

Chris Barrett 954-943-9682
Vice President

Gene Armeno 954-969-0041
2nd Vice President

Peggy Mead 954-974-8271
Treasurer
Membership

Bonnie Eichholtz 954-972-5045
Secretary

Jerry Fernon 954-753-5953
Programs

Gisela Gaspar 954-600-3519
Membership
Publicity

Peggy Layton 954-476-1210
Hospitality

Norman Barrett 954-943-9682
Parliamentarian

Open Position
Webmaster

Jonathan Stout 786-258-3806
Newsletter

News From the President

by: **Bob Obenland**



It's hard to be- Dues are \$15 per person or \$25 per family.

lieve it's the start of a new year. They seem to get shorter each year. I hope each of you had a good Christmas and will have a happy New Year.

With the start of the year it's dues time again. You can pay at the January meeting or if you can't make the meeting you can send your dues to our PO box:

Village Landlords
PO box 670093
Coral Springs, FL 33067



Again the House Tours were great. I'd like to thank Tom & Susan Shetler, Scott & Stephanie Taggart, Joe & Katherine McPhillips, Joe & Diane LaMonica, Dan & Peggy Layton, Bob & Gloria Obenland, Bill & Debbie King, and Bonnie & Ron

Eichholtz for opening their homes and showing us their displays. I'd also like to thank all those members that were able to attend one or more of the tours. If you could not make the tours plan on attending next year. Pictures of the tours are posted on our website and our Facebook page.

Jerry Fernon has gone back in time and loaded hundreds of older pictures on our Facebook page. Take a look and see what some of the older House Tours and our gatherings looked like.

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Our Next Meeting

by: **Jerry Fernon**



Happy New Year everyone. I hope this newsletter finds you all happy and healthy. I look forward to providing you with some interesting and informative club meetings this coming year. At our January meeting we were going to have Carlos from The Christmas Palace show us his talent at setting up a display, however his associate, David will be joining us instead. Carlos does all decorating in Hialeah and David takes care of the Fort Lauderdale store. He has agreed to pass on some of his knowledge and techniques on how to make a vignette. I look forward to that event and I know you will enjoy it as well. In February, we will have a Swap and Sell, so get your items ready!





November Meeting Highlights

by: **Bonnie Eichholtz**

In November, we welcomed new friends, **Michael Wiggins and Orlando Arroyo** as well as our distant (map wise) but close members, **Dianne and Chet Rosenbaum** along with **Kathy and Enn Krepp**.

Although living out of state, Dianne and Chet (who donated two wrapped gifts for the raffle) and Kathy and Enn, have remained members of our club.

Chris thanked members, **Nancy Fernon, Josephine Armeno and Bonnie Eichholtz** who organized Toys For Tots and **Marlene Bretl** for organizing The Grinch Grab Bag.

Gisela spoke on how the club is doing on Facebook and Chris said what a fantastic job she has done.

Chris Barrett congratulated Bonnie Eichholtz on being named collector of the year.

Peggy Mead hand delivered a check to S.O.S. Children's Village and Chris Barrett mailed a check to the Ronald McDonald House. Our Club donated \$750.00 to each of our two charities. Peggy read a letter of appreciation and presented a signed "thank you" card from the children at S.O.S.

Joe McPhillips volunteered to oversee the setting up of the D-56 Display at the Ronald McDonald House, and said that perhaps he and the volunteers could revamp the display over the summer. Chris thanked Gene Armeno, **Norman Barrett, Jerry Fernon, Nancy**

Fernon and Marlene Bretl for their help. Chris was also a volunteer.

The Slate for elections was announced, and with no additional candidates coming forward, it was accepted as presented. For 2012 our board will be **President:** Bob Obenland, **Vice President:** Chris Barrett, **Secretary:** Joe McPhillips, **Treasurer:** Peggy Mead and **Hospitality:** Bonnie Eichholtz and Josephine Armeno. Chris thanked the nominating committee, Nancy Fernon and **Debbie King**. The new officers will take over at the end of the January 2012 General Meeting.

Chris thanked all who make our meetings so enjoyable, Jerry Fernon for all his great ideas and to all who participated in display contests and other events.

Jerry spoke on a blog from (ncc d-56.com) and what a great job the person did on representing our club. He suggested membership check it out.

Tom Shetler announced that he and **Susan** would be in the February-March 2012 *Village D-Lights* Magazine under "Collector Spotlight".

Nancy spoke on the Chicago Gathering in September 21-23, 2012. She has printed info for anyone interested.

After our break, we had the Toys for Tots drawings and The Grinch Gift Exchange. Marlene explained how the Grinch Gift Exchange would work. Nancy announced we collected 122 toys. "Thank You".

Door Prizes:

Set of Trees-**Marlene Bretl**
Set of Street Lamps-**Joan Heisinger**
Hard Rock Ornament-**Kathy Krepp**
Set of 2 Wall & Fence-**Dan Layton**
SV Cat & Dog-**Peggy Layton**
Bright Lights Entry-**Gail Reynolds**
Hershey Truck-**Gail Reynolds**
Country Harvest-**Josephine Armeno**
Set of 3 Trees-**Kathy Tavernia**
Grinch Movie Marquis-**Carlos Suarez**
SV Sign-**Michael Wiggins**
Bright Light Dragon-**Mike Abrams**
Snow Bunnies-
"Shrubs in a Tub"-**Kathy Krepp**

Raffle Prizes

25 Year Bridge Event Piece-
Gene Armeno

SV Catch of the Day-
Charlie Heisinger
Painting our own Village Sign-
Michael Wiggins
Runaway Monster Bride-**Marlene Bretl**
Twisty Glitter Pines-**Joe LaMonica**
Skating Party-**Mark Reynolds**
SV Frost & Sons 5 & Dime-
Peggy Layton
Fezziwig's Warehouse-**Donna Fesquez**
Fred's Flat-Dickens-**Joe LaMonica**
Red's Elfland Diner-**Peggy Mead**

Toys for Tot's Prizes:

Members bringing presents for Toys for Tots got one raffle ticket for each gift offered. Prizes were generously donated (and luckily won) by the following:

Department 56

Winter Sleigh-**Kathy Krepp**

Christmas Palace

R Charlton's Coffeehouse -
Norm Barrett

The Silver Sleigh

\$25 Gift Certificate-**Peggy Layton**

Cross Stich Cupboard

Santa's Paper Snowflake Studio-
Kathy Krepp

Terri's Hallmark

Roosevelt Park Band Shell-
Gail Reynolds

Village Landlords

East Indies Trading Co-**Tom Shetler**
Vet & Pet Shop-**Marlene Bretl**



Membership Insider

by: Gisela Gaspar

100+ Members and still looking for more!

By the time you read this, the 2012 Open Houses will have come and gone. What a fun organization we have! Thank you everyone who opened up their homes and shared their passion for this amazing hobby!

As our Facebook page continues to grow, we look to our members for ideas and suggestions. Please check it often, as we try to upload information daily. We have also been fortunate enough to have Jerry keep up with all of the club photography. With Jerry's help, I was able to upload an album of over 800 photographs. If you are interested in seeing all of them, please go to our Facebook page and look for the album titled, "The Village Landlords through the Years". It's a wonderful way to reminisce of the various events and members throughout the years! We hope that through Facebook, we can give everyone a platform where you can visit as often as you like and whenever you like. We hope it will become a good reference for you as you get inspired and create new villages. Hopefully, Facebook will become an interactive venue that we can all be proud of.

At the time this article was submitted, we currently have 114 fans worldwide looking to The Village Landlords for ideas and guidance with their villages. We have had amazing response to all of the activities and open houses! We were recently contacted through Facebook by a lady from Ohio. It seems that she was flipping through

one of our albums and noticed a photo of Bonnie's Halloween hearse. She noticed their last name of Eichholtz, and informed us that her local funeral home had the same name! WHAT A COINCIDENCE!!!

I also wanted to announce that we have a few new members that joined our club back in December! Welcome to our club, Scott & Stephanie Taggart and Michael Wiggins & Orlando Arroyo! Our members are what make our club a success.

2012 Dues are Now Due!

I also want to remind everyone that the Membership Dues are DUE! We will be collecting the monies at the next meeting or you can always mail them in! See you all on January 22!



OUR FACEBOOK QR CODE. If you have a smartphone or know some that does, feel free to share this code with them! It will take them immediately to our Facebook page and they can "LIKE" us! That way, everyone can see what our club is all about!!!

Below is a special "Thank You" from the great folks at the Ronald McDonald House. This year, our club once again participated in their holiday cheer, by setting up a display in their common area family room. A very nice letter was sent to our club from their Executive Director inviting us back next year!



15 S.E. 15th STREET • FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33316
PHONE: 954.828.1822 • FAX: 954.828.1824

December 12, 2011

Mrs. Christine Barrett
Village Landlords
1121 SE 9th Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Dear Mrs. Barrett:

On behalf of the families and staff of Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Florida, I want to kindly thank **Village Landlords** for the generous donation of \$750.00, which \$500 went to sponsor our fundraiser at the **Gumdrop** level.

I am excited to announce that our "8th Annual Home for the Holidays Lighting Ceremony" was a tremendous success! Once again, we had an amazing event with delicious food, music, dance, and a great crowd. We had at least 450 people gathered that night to support our "Share a Night" program. I must say that it was the best way to kick off the holiday season with our extended family that included the House guests, donors, volunteers and everyone who has given back to our charity throughout these years.

As we collect the last of the incoming donations, we are proud to inform that we raised \$84,000 to host families of seriously ill children receiving treatment at the nearby pediatric hospitals. We couldn't have exceeded our goal without the wonderful support from our amazing sponsors, donors, and guests.

We are truly honored and appreciative to have **Village Landlords** be part of the Ronald McDonald House family. By sponsoring, you not only made an impact in our charity, but you also warmed the hearts and eased the minds of our families. Thank you for making your Christmas Village display in our family room a tradition to bring smiles to our families faces. We look forward to having you participate again in our 9th Annual Home for the Holidays event in 2013.

We wish you a wonderful, safe, and prosperous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Soraya Rivera-Moya

Soraya Rivera-Moya
Executive Director





The Treasury Report

by: **Peggy Mead**

Treasurers Report for
November/December, 2011.

Beginning Balance \$2,693.10

Deposits

Membership \$206.00

Raffle \$148.00

Total Deposits \$354.00

Expenses

Copies \$35.50

Meeting \$291.08

NCC Dues \$36.00

Other \$119.34

Picnic \$175.00

Raffle Prizes \$625.90

Stamps \$19.36

Total Expenses \$1,302.18

Ending Balance \$1,744.92

Raffle Bank \$50.00

\$1,794.92



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Hospitality Helpers

by: **Peggy Layton**

Hope you had a wonderful holiday and I wish you all a Happy & Healthy New Year. Those of you who were able to attend my Open House, commented on a specific dessert I had made. Well, I am going to give you all the recipe for that dessert. It is called: Black Forest Mousse Dessert

Here is a list of the people bringing desserts to January's meeting:

Donna Fresquez
Roseann Abrams
Joan Heinsinger
Gail Reynolds
Kathy Krepp
Gisela Gaspar
Chris Barrett
Nancy Fernon

Rosemary De Jesus has offered to bring the Soda and water for the January meeting — thanks everyone!



Black Forest Mousse Dessert

1 pkg. (3.9 oz.) JELL-O Chocolate Instant Pudding
1-1/2 cups cold milk
1 tub (8 oz.) COOL WHIP Whipped Topping, thawed, divided
16 Oreo cookies, coarsely crushed (about 1 1/2 cups), divided
1-1/2 cups of cherry pie filling

Beat pudding mix and milk in medium bowl with whisk 2 min. Stir in 1 cup COOL WHIP. Reserve 1/2 cup of cookie crumbs; stir remaining crumbs into pudding mixture. Spoon half into 1-1/2 qt. serving bowl. Top with layers of 1 cup each of the remaining COOL WHIP and pie filling. Cover with layers of remaining pudding mixture, COOL WHIP, pie filling and reserved cookie crumbs. If using a trifle bowl, double the recipe in order to fill the bowl. Makes 12 servings, 1/2 cup each.

7th Annual Village Landlord Picnic Scheduled for Sunday, March 25th!



by: **Bonnie Eichholtz**

On March 25th (lunch is served at 12:30 pm) we will be having our Seventh 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 January or February meeting indicating you will be attending and

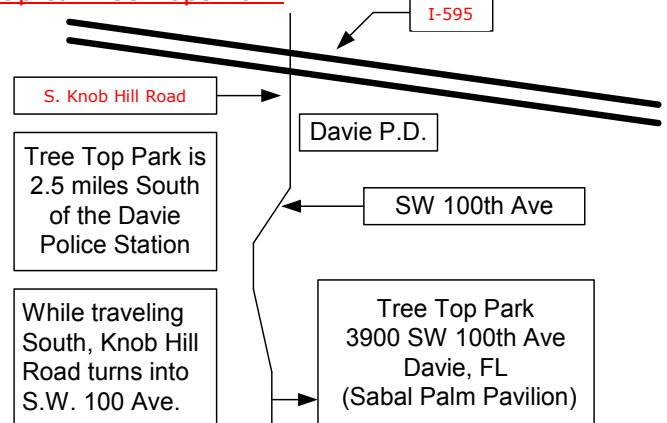
the number of guests you will be bringing. The cost is \$10 per person. As we did last year, we ask that you bring a covered dish. If you will not be at the meeting, please mail the form to **Peggy Mead**. She must have it no later than March 10th.

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.



Map to Tree Tops Park



SEVENTH ANNUAL VILLAGE LANDLORDS PICNIC

Sunday, March 25, 2012 – 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 4th Street
Coconut Creek, FL 33066

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

Covered Dish you will bring: _____

Names of Members Attending:	Names of Guests Attending:



Jerry's Blog

by: Jerry Fernon

December and January are busy months for us Landlords. What with decorating, baking and collecting all those rent checks from those really small people. My bank says the paper checks are so small, they can't cash them. Here is a recap of the Open Houses I attended and a quick note about **Fran and Don Biedinger** who entered the attached picture from their North Pole display in FPL's holiday photo contest. They won the "decorations" category and a \$100 gift card. I am betting that all went back to FPL for their increased December electric bill! Good job, Biedingers!



This is **Tom and Susan's** open house. The first of the season. Pictures cannot convey the atmosphere Tom has created in his village. His handling of lighting gives a dimension to his displays that is not recordable at least by my available talent with a camera. You can however see the amount of work Tom has put into his display. His collection of cars alone is to be envied.



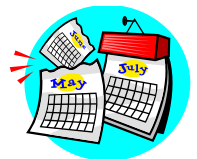
His attention to detail is quite obvious as is his creativity. You would have to go a long way to see the equal of this year's display. Susan's talent lies in another direction and that is a very gracious hostess that offered our members a wonderful array of finger food and drinks. This was topped off with an excellent "Merry Christmas Village Landlords" cake.



CROSS STITCH CUPBOARD

1600 NORTHEAST 26TH STREET
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33305
954-563-6363
1-800-752-4153

Upcoming Events

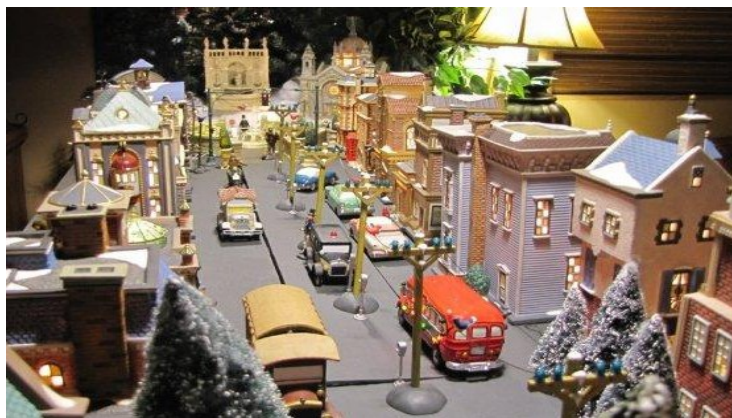


- 01/22 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm
- 02/07 — Village Landlords Board Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 02/26 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm
- 03/06 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 03/25 — 7th Annual Picnic and VL Meeting at noon!
- 04/03 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 04/22 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm



Tonight was **Scott and Stephanie's** open house. They are new members that have yet to come to a meeting but let me tell you that we could all learn from them some display ideas. Scott is an accomplished wood worker

and has made a display cabinet to be envied. It even houses a 300 gallon salt water fish tank that is fascinating. Upon review of my photos I find I did not take an overview of the display so you won't see this in the pictures. Oh well next year... some may be upset with one idea but I think it has merit and that is to paint the bases of accessories dark gray to hide the white base. When you do not use snow in your scenes the white base tends to stick out. When you are committed to your village like Scott is, I think you should be able to put your own stamp to it. It was a fun night with many of our friends and some excellent food.



You knew you were in for a special evening when you saw the candy cane lane inviting you into the **McPhillips** home. **Joe and Katherine's** display was warm and inviting. Again, pictures alone do not do it justice.



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Tonight at **Betty Hargrave's** is the night I have been waiting for. It is not that I am a collector of this type of collectable (except the Christmas items and of course dept.56) it's just that I am in awe of the amount of collectables. Betty has amassed a collection of collectables. Most of which she keeps up year around. She does take down Christmas related items. Betty started putting up Christmas in October and will take it down at the end of January. She is 92 years

young and does this by herself. Betty's husband passed early in 2011. So she has the time to fuss on little details. Her main passion is collecting dolls but I think it extends way beyond that. She did say that this may be the last year she has an open house. If this is so I am glad we had the opportunity to see the result of this passion.



Bill and Debbie's open house was over the top. They love doing a great display and it shows. They somehow manage to find little things not normally seen by the rest of us. The way Debbie carved the mountain was phenomenal. The ice Palace scene over the TV was done to perfection. Photographs cannot convey the impact these wonderful scenes create. They must be seen to fully appreciate them.



**TERRI'S
HALLMARK**

1357 W. PALMETTO PARK RD.
BOCA RATON, FL 33486
Tel: (561) 391-3410
Fax: (561) 391-7987

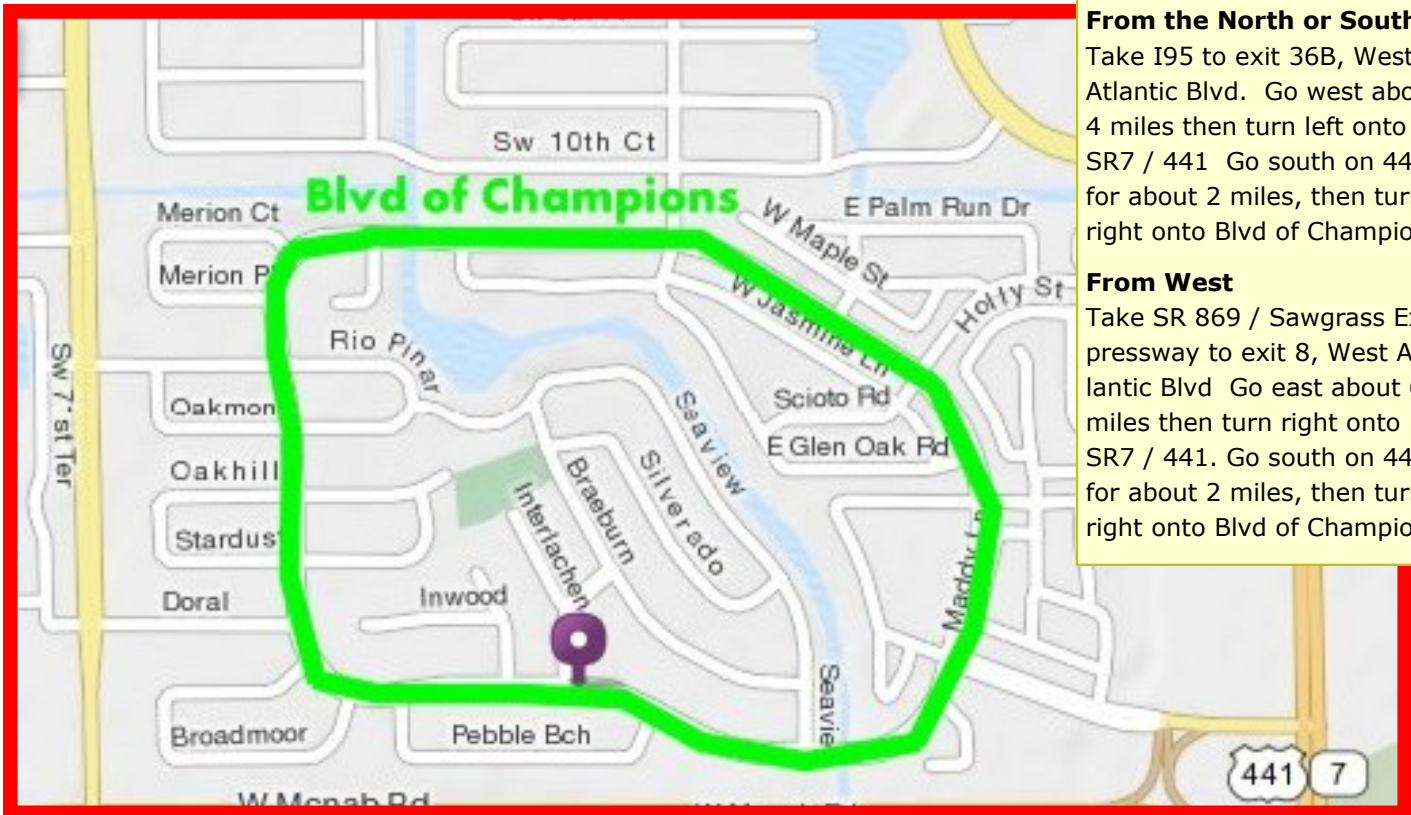


Just got back from **Bob and Gloria's** and what a nice evening. Bob made some awesome displays. I managed to take a group picture and it came out pretty good. Had to have a friend of Bob's take it. Hard to get everyone in it especially when they hide.



[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



From the North or South

Take I95 to exit 36B, West Atlantic Blvd. Go west about 4 miles then turn left onto SR7 / 441 Go south on 441 for about 2 miles, then turn right onto Blvd of Champions

From West

Take SR 869 / Sawgrass Expressway to exit 8, West Atlantic Blvd Go east about 6 miles then turn right onto SR7 / 441. Go south on 441 for about 2 miles, then turn right onto Blvd of Champions

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 _____