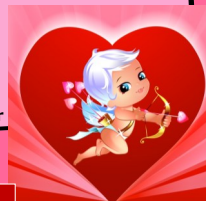




# The Village Press

The Village Landlords Newsletter



**Next Meeting is February 26th, 2:15pm at Champion's Hall  
6601 Blvd of Champions, North Lauderdale, FL 33068**

**February 2012**

## 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>Joe McPhillips</b> Secretary	561-218-9557
<b>Jerry Fernon</b> Programs	954-753-5953
<b>Gisela Gaspar</b> Membership Publicity	954-600-3519
<b>Bonnie Eichholtz</b> Hospitality	954-972-5045
<b>Norman Barrett</b> Parliamentarian	954-943-9682
<b>Open Position</b> Webmaster	PLEASE CON- SIDER HELPING
<b>Jonathan Stout</b> Newsletter	786-258-3806

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## News From the President

by: Bob Obenland



We'd like to thank **Felix Cruz** for presenting the information about D56 at our January meeting with very short notice. He talked about the new pieces and circulated a copy of the new catalog that is currently shipping to the dealers.

If you weren't able to pay your dues at the January meeting (\$15 per person or \$25 per family) you can pay at the February meeting or you can send a check to our PO box:

Village Landlords  
PO box 670093  
Coral Springs, FL 33067

This year is the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens. He

was born February 7, 1812, in Portsmouth, England. Many celebrations and events, along with high excitement, are going on in



England and all over the world, concerning the 200th birthday of Dickens. Enclosed in this newsletter is a short quiz about Dickens. Test your knowledge and bring your answers to the February meeting and possibly you can win a little something.

Last week Department 56 announced the appointment of Sue Azar as the new President of Department

56. Sue was the Department 56 Brand Manager for the last two years

This January, the NCC (National Council of 56 Clubs) installed their new officers. They are asking the clubs to submit a new name for the NCC Bulletin. This is the magazine they publish quarterly to the clubs. Think of something and we will ask for them at the meeting. I will be E-mailing each of you the latest NCC Bulletin next week.

This month's meeting will be a Swap n Sell, so if you have anything you want to sell bring it to the meeting. If you need any older pieces you may be able to find them on Sunday. Good shopping!

## Our Next Meeting

by: Jerry Fernon



Here it is February already. I know you have all been looking forward

to our annual "swap and sell". I for one have some swapping to do. So bring your duplicates, broken houses (they can be used as construction sites or fire ravaged buildings and so on) and any other village related items you no longer need.

I plan to show pictures of the 2011/2012 Open Hous-

es at the Sunday meeting. The members that had these open houses will be able to give the rest of us some inside comments on how they made their displays. I think you all will enjoy seeing some remarkable creations.



March of course is our annual picnic. Please do not miss this one. Marlene has graciously accepted to provide us with some fun games and you know we will have some fabulous food.



# January Meeting Highlights

by: Bonnie Eichholtz

Bob welcomed new members **Stephanie and Scott Taggart, Elizabeth Bron, Shelly and Robert Beauvais, Michael Wiggins and Orlando Arroyo. Phil and Rae Campello** who could not attend the meeting, brought the total membership to 97.

Gisela said there are over 115 members on Facebook from all over the world. It is very informative and really growing. A laminated poster promoting our club will be displayed at dealer events to invite new members to join us.

Gene visited a private seller in Wellington and bought \$1,000.00 worth of items for \$400. Bob got four CIC Houses for \$50.00 from an owner selling her buildings.

Peggy Layton thanked everyone who brought goodies to the meeting, as she handed over the volunteer sign-up sheet to Bonnie Eichholtz, who will be taking over the Hospitality position.

Bob thanked **Joe McPhillips** as chairperson for the Ronald McDonald House Holiday Display and for all the members who helped with setting it up: **Chris and Norm Barrett, Jerry and Nancy Fernon, Gene Armeno and Marlene Bretl**. It was a very nice display and the children loved it.

At the end of the meeting, Joe McPhillips took over as



Secretary, and Bonnie Eichholtz will assume her role as Hospitality chairperson.

The representative from the Christmas Palace was unable to attend our January meeting, therefore, Felix Cruz, the representative of Department 56 (originally scheduled for February), was gracious enough to be our guest speaker this month.

Felix spoke to the club on D-56 items of interest. He informed the club on new products and answered questions from the group.

Jerry spoke on setting up a Storybook Village for RMH, as a permanent display, or any hospital that might like to have a display up throughout the year. Jerry will chair the project and **Guenther Heil, Bonnie Eichholtz, Mai Hui, Mike Abrams and Peggy Mead** volunteered to help with the display.

Peggy Mead read a card from our SOS Charity Organization and informed the club that we are receiving their newsletter. She also informed the club that the SOS is holding two upcoming events: one on February 29th and one on April 21st.

The Village D-Lights' website is down. Gisela said you could contact Katrina Brocka at 877-899-9977 to renew or establish a new subscription. The next publication will feature club members, **Tom and Susan Shetler**, so you will want to get a copy of that!

## Door Prizes:

Set of Trees — **Donna Fesquez**

Park Bench — **Guenther Heil**

Trinket Holder — **Roseanne Abrams**

Bright Lights Santa — **Genevieve Alt**

Village City Signs — **Peggy Layton**

AC-DC Adapter — **Norm Barrett**

Bag of Snow — **Peggy Mead**

Set of 4 Winter Walkways — **Kathy Tavernia**

Set of Trees — **Genevieve Alt**

Angel Band Set of 3 — **Susan Roberts**

## Raffle Prizes:

A Busy Elf Sign — **Bonnie Eichholtz**

SV On the Road Again — **Bonnie Eichholtz**

Set of 3 Frosted Spruce Trees — **Michael Wiggins**

NP Flight Training — **Susan Roberts**

SV Dick Clark American Bandstand — **Marlene Bretl**

Panther Tote Bag — **Bonnie Eichholtz**

## Mystery House

NCC Pin Shop — **Elizabeth Bron**

## Special Raffle

Santa's Wonderland House — **Peggy Layton**



## Membership Insider

by: Gisela Gaspar

97 Members and still recruiting!

Hello Everyone! At the time this article was written, we have a total of 97 members and 117 Facebook fans! At the last meeting, we had a few new members join the club. We would like to welcome **Elizabeth Bron, Shelly and Robert Beauvais, and Phil and Rae Campello**. This group is a lot of fun to work with and I am really enjoying the fact that we can share our wonderful collections with everyone!

As our Facebook page continues to grow, I know that some of you haven't had the opportunity to visit our page yet! So I thought I would recap the page and all of the happenings since the last general meeting in January.

- **The Christmas Palace, The Silver Sleigh and The Cross Stitch Cupboard** are all having After Christmas Sales! Be sure to stop in on our advertisers! You might just get the missing piece you have been looking for!!!

- Saturday, February 18th, 2012. The Hobby Superstore in Plantation is putting on a small train clinic for anyone wanting to start a train layout or just have questions about trains. They are very knowledgeable about Department 56 as well, as they carry the buildings and accessories. The clinic will start at 11am and will be in the back of the store. Please contact the store for more information!

- Saturday, February 25th, 2012. – There will be a Toy Train Show sponsored by the Florida Citrus Model Train Society. It's from 9am – 3pm and will be located at the Pembroke Pines Charter School Central Campus. The address is 12350 Sheridan Street, Pembroke Pines. The train show will be held in the cafeteria. Kids are free. Adults are a \$4 donation. For more information, please visit their website at [www.fcmts.org](http://www.fcmts.org).

- Jerry Fernon has uploaded various pictures of **Robert & Sharon Cone's** new village / train layout. What a marvelous job they did! There are even clouds on their ceiling!!!!

- There is a Facebook page titled, DEPARTMENT 56 DISPLAYS BY KATHY! This lady does an amazing job of adding details to villages. Her photography depicts various ideas that we all could incorporate into our own displays.

- The Hobby Superstore also posted 29 photos on how they designed their 2012 HO SCALE TRAIN LAYOUT for the store. It was great to see the process and it would give many of us the courage to design our own train layouts to accessorize with our Department 56 collection.

- Charles Dickens would have been 200 years old on February 7! Happy

Birthday to the man that gave us such wonderful characters as Scrooge, Tiny Tim, Oliver Twist and David Copperfield. Without him, Department 56 would have never created the Dickens's Village Collection that so many of us love and adore! HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHARLES DICKENS!!!

- MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!! SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2012 for the Chicago Gathering. It will be located in Rosemont, Illinois. Please keep checking the newsletters for more information. You can also check out their website: [www.chicagogathering.org](http://www.chicagogathering.org).

- TIPPI Hot Wire Foam Cutter has placed two videos on Facebook showing you an alternative to the Hot Wire tool. TIPPI, is a great accessory for constructing your villages using foam. The videos are "How-to's", and we found them to be very educational for someone creating with a hot-wire tool! The videos cover such topics as *How to Design Retaining Walls* and *Constructing Mountains and Streams using foam*!

- When Felix Cruz mentioned the MERLO WORLD DVD at our last meeting, I had to look it up on You Tube! What an incredible video for

(Continued on page 7)





**TERRI'S  
HALLMARK**

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





## The Treasury Report

by: Peggy Mead

Treasurers Report for  
January 2012.

Beginning Balance \$1,744.92

### Deposits

Membership	\$440.00
Picnic	\$120.00
NCC Sales	\$ 87.45
Raffle	\$145.00
Special Raffle	\$129.00

Total Deposits \$921.45

### Expenses

Meeting	\$45.00
Refreshments	\$23.39
Shirt Sales	(\$20.00)
Raffle Prizes	\$ 50.00
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$ 98.39

Ending Balance \$2,567.98

Raffle Bank \$50.00

\$2,617.98



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## Hospitality Helpers

by: Bonnie Eichholtz

Happy 200th, Charles Dickens, born  
February 7, 1812 in Portsmouth, Eng-  
land. Thank you for great literary

classics. To name a few: "A Christmas Carol", "Oliver  
Twist", "Great Expectations", "David Copperfield", "Tale  
of Two Cities" and "Nicholas Nickleby". In honor of  
Charles Dickens' Birthday, I am submitting a recipe di-  
rectly from Mary Cratchit's Cookbook.

Here is a list of the people bringing goodies to the next  
meeting

**Elizabeth Bron**  
**Kathy Tavernia**  
**Joe McPhillips**  
**Joan Heinsinger**  
**Carlos and Gisela Suarez**  
**Susan Roberts**  
**Gail Reynolds**  
**Mei-Hau Paige**

**Michael and Orlando** are bringing the ice and drinks.



## Rice Pudding with Currants

4 cups milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
½ cup uncooked regular rice  
1 teaspoon finely shredded orange peel  
½ cup sugar, a pinch of salt  
½ cup currants  
Whipping cream

Heat oven to 300 degrees. Mix all ingredients ex-  
cept whipping cream. Pour into a buttered 2-quart  
soufflé dish or casserole.

Bake uncovered, stirring occasionally for 2 hours.  
Continue to bake without stirring 20 to 30 minutes  
longer or until set and lightly browned. Serve  
warm. Pour whipping cream over each serving.

# 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

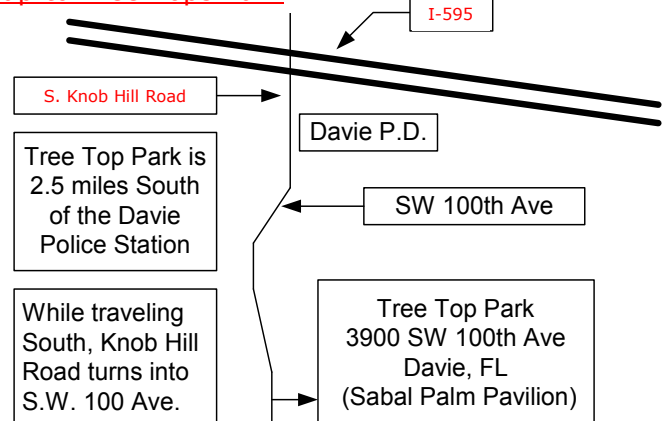


the number of guests you will be bringing. The cost is \$10 per person. As we did last year, we ask that you bring a covered dish. If you will not be at the meeting, please mail the form to **Peggy Mead**. She must have it no later than March 10th.

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 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:



## Contest Corner—Two for you!

by: Gisela and Bob

The NCC Executive Board is looking for suggestions for a new name for their NCC "Bulletin". The Bulletin comes out bi-monthly and is the newsletter that gets sent out to all of it's member clubs.

If you have a suggestion for a new name, please submit it to The Village Landlords by March 6th! All of the entries will be voted on at the next Board Meeting. Each club can

submit up to 3 entries, and I have a feeling that our members will come up with the winning submission. Please bring the form below to the meeting. We will gather all of the suggestions then. If you can't attend the meeting and have a submission you would like to enter, please contact any of the board members by phone. Our information is on the front page of the newsletter. Good Luck! Cant wait to see what you come up with!

### NCC BULLETIN NAMING FORM

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suggested Entry: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suggested Entry: \_\_\_\_\_



### A DICKENS OF A QUIZ

- What is Dickens' full legal name?
  - Charles John Dickens
  - Charles John Huffam Dickens
  - John Charles Dickens
  - Charles Christopher Dickens
- Birth order often plays a roll in what a person accomplishes in life. Where does Dickens fall in his family of eight children?
  - He was the first born
  - He was the first male born
  - He was second born
  - Both b and c
- "The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club", published in serial format in 1836 catapulted Dickens to national prominence, and many novels, plays and short stories followed over the next 34 years. Which of the following was not written by Dickens?
  - "The Cricket On The Hearth"
  - "The Life Of Our Lord: As written for his children"
  - "Pictures From Italy"
  - "Charles Dickens, A Life"
- Dickens married Catherine Hogarth in 1836. Together they had how many children?
  - Eight
  - One
  - Ten
  - They had no children together
- Name the only home Dickens ever owned.
  - Gad's Hill Place
  - The Rochester House
  - The Great Ormond Street House
  - Brighton Manor
- On June 9, 1865, Dickens was involved in a catastrophic train accident. His first class coach was the only one not derailed during the accident. Dickens got off the car safely but returned to retrieve an unfinished manuscript of his latest novel. Which novel was almost lost in the train wreck?
  - "Our Mutual Friend"
  - "A Christmas Carol"
  - "Nicholas Nickleby"
  - "Oliver Twist"
- How many times did Charles Dickens visit the United States during his lifetime?
  - Once
  - Twice
  - He permanently moved to Boston in 1859.
  - He never visited the United States
- Dickens was very interested in copyright protection for authors. Which American authors did Dickens correspond with to work or copyright protection for the written word?
  - Ralph Waldo Emerson
  - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
  - Washington Irving
  - All these authors
- Which of the following occupations could Dickens not put on his resume?
  - Court Reporter
  - Magazine Publisher
  - Playwright
  - Dickens could include all of these occupations
- Dickens died on June 9, 1870 at his home, Gad's Hill Place. What was the cause of death?
  - Heart Attack
  - Stroke
  - An accidental fall
  - Complications from his train derailment accident

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

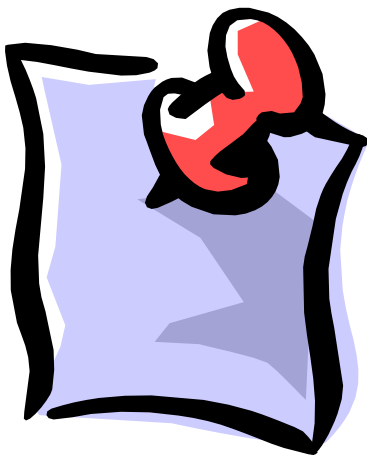
Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_



(Continued from page 3)

anyone interested in Halloween! It is extremely well done and sells for \$20 a DVD! If you haven't had a chance to see it, visit our Facebook page for the link. It will be worth your time!!!

- If you are trying to renew or get a new Village D-Lights subscription, Linda Kruger said to please call subscription services manager, Katrina Brocka at 1-877-899-9977. Please have your credit cards ready and she'll take care of your VDL subscription!



- We uploaded images of all of the NEW 2012 Department 56 and Lemax buildings and accessories! There are some great new pieces that both companies are putting out this year. Start your ideas early this year!

- MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!! OCTOBER 25-27, 2013, Several Northeast Clubs will be the hosts for the Northeast Harvest Gathering. This event will be held at the Sheraton Hartford Hotel at Bradley Airport in Windsor Locks, CT.

- DEPARTMENT 56 MISS LITTOWN, Melinda Seegers, heads up the Department 56 Consumer Services area. She is the lady to call when you need replacement pieces for your villages. She can be reached by tele-

phone at 800-548-8696 Monday-Friday from 11am-2pm CENTRAL. It is probably better to reach her through email:

[mslittown@dept56.com](mailto:mslittown@dept56.com).

She is the only one in her department and she is also the one that actually fills and processes your orders. Department 56 has now also set up an online store for the various missing pieces you might need. Please check their website at [www.department56.com](http://www.department56.com) for more information!!!

If you do call in, please mention that you are with the Village Landlords!

As you can see, we have had a very busy month on Facebook. If anyone has anything they would like to include, please let me know. You can reach me by phone at 954-600-3519 or by email at [GiselaGaspar@aol.com](mailto:GiselaGaspar@aol.com). I would love to hear your input!

I also want to remind everyone that the picnic monies and membership dues will be collected at the next meeting. If you are not attending the next meeting, you can always mail them in! See you all on February 26!

## 2012 Dues are Now Due!



### The Silver Sleigh

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Christmas • Flowers • Gifts

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



### CROSS STITCH CUPBOARD

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

## Upcoming Events



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  
09/04 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm  
09/16 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm  
10/02 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm  
10/28 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm  
11/06 — Village Landlords Board Meeting at 7:30 pm  
11/18 — Village Landlords Meeting at 2:15 pm



## Community Outreach

by: **Peggy Mead**

We are invited, as individuals, to participate in the following fundraising events being held by SOS Children's Villages. If you would like to attend either of these events please call Julie Selvaggi at SOS at the number listed below. I am presenting this information for your consideration since I was asked to follow up and get more information on the Gala/fundraiser that was in the last SOS newsletter that I presented at our January meeting.

### ●●● Gala Kickoff Celebration

Wednesday, February 29, 2012, 07:00pm - 10:00pm

by [vmwalter](#)

Hits : 68

**Leap Year Party**  
One Extra Day Can Make a Difference!

**You're Invited to the  
SOS Gala Kick-off  
02.29.12 @ 7pm**

Hosted by Jeff & Donna Lamm  
17290 St James Court,  
Boca Raton  
St. Andrews Country Club

Raffles \* Appetizers \* Cocktails \* Fun

Guests are asked to bring one item to donate for our Gala auction at Mercedes-Benz of Delray on April 21st. Donations can be jewelry, art, gift cards, and more. You're limited only by your imagination. Your gift will help raise money for our foster children.

RSVP REQUIRED by Feb 20, 2012  
Contact Julie at 954-420-5030 or  
[jselvaggi@sosflorida.com](mailto:jselvaggi@sosflorida.com)

*Then Save the Date  
A New Experience Awaits...*

**HOPE  
AND HOME  
GALA**

**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES  
FLORIDA**

**Mercedes-Benz of Delray  
Saturday, April 21, 2012 · 7pm**

**Location :** Home of Jeff & Donna Lamm; 17290 St. James Court, Boca Raton

**Contact :** Julie Selvaggi, [jselvaggi@sosflorida.com](mailto:jselvaggi@sosflorida.com), 954-420-5030

## HOPE AND HOME GALA

Saturday, April 21, 2012

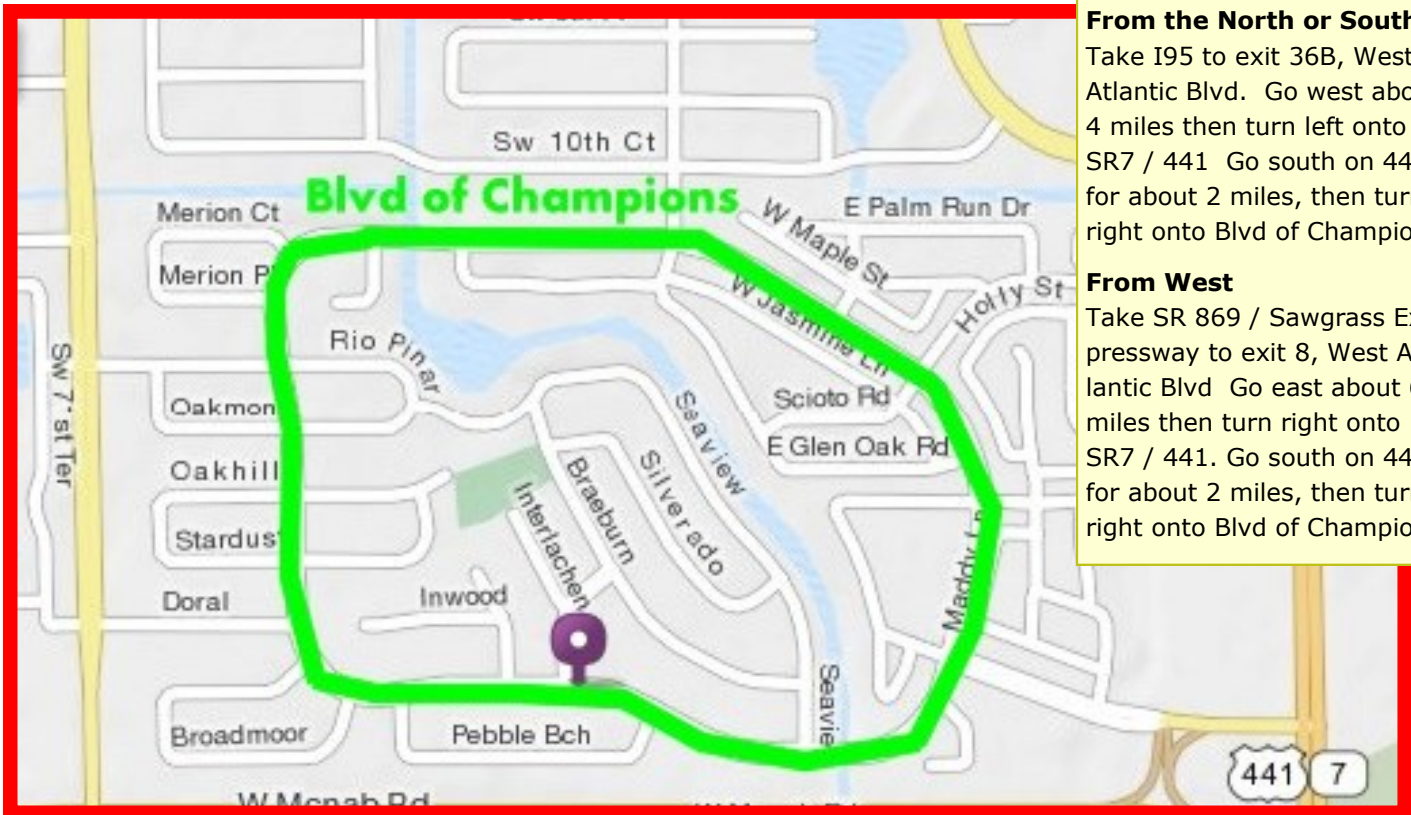
Mercedes Benz of Delray

The Club Manager's Association of America Seminole Region Golf Tournament presents the annual Hope and Home Gala benefiting the foster children of SOS Children's Villages – Florida. The celebration moves to Mercedes-Benz of Delray on Saturday, April 21, 2012. This year's gala experience includes casino games, delicious dining, dancing and a silent and live auction. Tickets are \$175 per person. Guests pre-purchasing tickets before March 31st will receive free chips for casino play. Funds raised help SOS provide basic needs, childhood activities as well as vital services like therapy, tutoring and life skills for the 72 boys and girls who call the Village home.



[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 \_\_\_\_\_