

Creation Station

by Thea Heyink

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"Getting Started"

This year, as many years in the past, I began already thinking and planning for my 2022 Christmas village in September. But this year has had added challenges compared to other years. Halfway through the year, I sold my apartment where I had built the Village on three shelves. While looking for my next abode, I kept in mind that I needed space for the Christmas Village. This added some stress to finding the exact correct home for me and my many totes of porcelain houses, equipment and accessories.

As well, throughout the summer we had some family tragedy which really put my imagination and creative juices on hold. But, as time went on, there's renewed excitement and anticipation when the time comes for planning to begin.

The third event that slowed down progress this year was a family wedding clear across Canada early in October. So my family and I made plans to fly or drive across four provinces, meeting for several days in northern Alberta to celebrate the wedding of my son and his bride.

But the time has now come to get designing and building. After deciding where to place the village, and what format

it will take, moving furniture to other areas, and placing an order with my favourite online supplier, I could finally get started.

However there are still challenges to overcome. The wall I am using is not a standard length. It is 5 inches short of twelve feet, so I have purchased two tables of four feet each and need to find or build a structure of 43 inches to reach the wall. I have found a 41 inch console table I can use, and am hoping that will do the trick.

Two trips to Home Depot were needed to transport the packages of styrofoam sheets that I will be using to build the base and the mountainous backdrops. From my online shop I purchased four hangable backdrop canvasses with fiberoptic stars. I hope they will look as stunning as I imagine.

YouTube, as usual, has been invaluable in terms of stoking the imagination for benchwork layout and design. Model train dioramas are excellent source of ideas and techniques.

So stay tuned, the videos are about to commence once again, and you can follow the long and work-intensive progress by checking back occasionally here at TVC. I really hope my videos will encourage you to start your own village building adventures, and give you much satisfaction when your Yuletide company ooohs and aaahs over your Christmas display!

