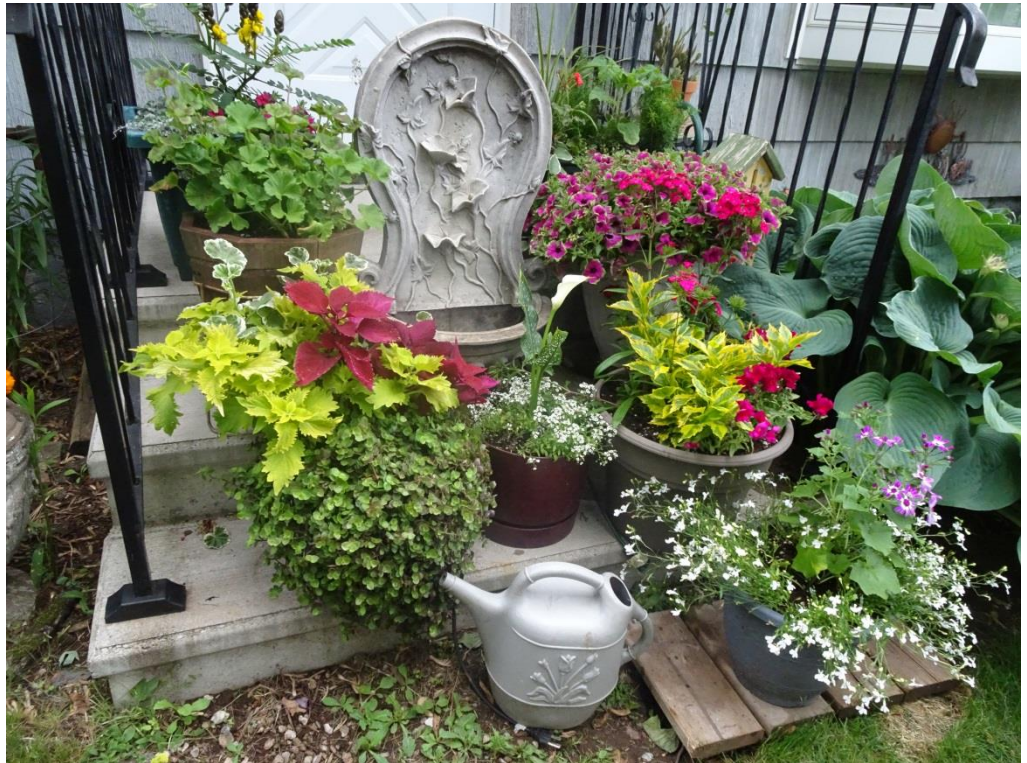


Just so you know! . . . June 25, 2017

By David Spears



. . . No one has given me an idea for a village vignette in our gardens. The picture below is of some pots I filled. That's to show you we do have flowers in northern Minnesota. I still need help!



. . . *Melinda Seegers*, Dept. 56, made a quilt for the Tempe gathering. Silver, black and white. I saw many images, very nice looking. Bet it looked great 'in person.'

. . . Looking to see when we attended our **first gathering**, I discovered some interesting things. One, members of our Village North Collectors Club had ten sessions of display construction in 1999. It was our clubs entry for the display contest at Bachman's Gathering in August of that year. When completed, it barely, just barely, fit in the back of a pickup truck (with topper). We won no awards at the gathering but our display received lots of attention. A picture was even posted on-line. That was unusual in 1999 (and a first for our club). The display was the Lake Superior shoreline from the Aerial Bridge to Glensheen Mansion in Duluth.

Village North Collectors Club - Duluth, MN/ Superior, WI

*Fund raising rummage sale -July
28, 29, Gail & Jeff's*

*Club picnic - August 5, Kandi &
Rod's cabin*

Next meeting -September 20

Department 56 Gatherings

*Chicago, IL - September 27-30,
2018*

Cincinnati, OH - 2019

National Council of 56 Clubs -

www.ncc56clubs.com

Minnesota 56 Clubs -

www.minnesota56clubs.com

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... 'Sweet Home Chicago,' September 27-30, 2018. Crowne Plaza Hotel Chicago O'Hare, 5440 N River Rd, Rosemont, IL 60018. \$119.00 + tax (reservations mid-October 2017). Parking: \$14.00 per night with in and out privileges. www.chicagogathering.org

... The ad for the estate sale said "tremendous amount of Dept. 56." We were there the afternoon of the fourth day and we still spent \$74.25. We left much more than we bought – just so you know! The horse cookie cutter will not be used in our displays.



... Congratulations to **Collector of the Year Debbie Shelgren**. Named so by the National Council of 56 Clubs at the recent Tempe, AZ gathering.

... *Melinda Seegers* – Dept. 56, and *Harry and June McGowan* – Dept. 56 Retirees, were the first to be awarded the **NCC Presidents Award**. – It is a milestone award that will be presented annually, beginning with the organization's 25th Anniversary. The award shall have a broad reach in an effort to recognize an individual, individuals or entity who through their selfless actions have left a permanent and positive imprint on the National Council of 56 Clubs, its Member Clubs and Department 56 collecting. Recipients may include Department 56 employees, NCC officers, Clubs, individual collector(s), Associate Members, retailers and the like. The award(s) shall be presented, publicly, at the gathering of the sitting President's choice.

... I really enjoyed all the images posted from the Silver Rush 25th Anniversary Gathering. Saw pictures of a bunch of friends. <http://ncc56.com/gallery/index.php/NCC-25th-Anniversary-Gathering>. Thanks to Pete N Trudi Baer for all their work.

... We were at the Park Point Art Fair in Duluth, MN. Linda saw a 'tower' she liked for our gardens. I think it looks like a rocket. The artist built it from heavy metal. Its maybe eighteen inches tall, made to be placed on top of a piece of re-rod. Just don't think it will work in a village display.



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