

Meet fellow collectors, try your hand at painting a chalkware figure and learn about holiday collections at the lecture series. Vallaincourt Studios' 16th annual Colonial Christmas Collector's Weekend is an excuse to escape the real world and join like-minded people who share an affinity for Christmas and its traditions.

Since the first Collector's Weekend in 1996, chalkware afficionados have made the annual trek to the Vaillancourt studios in Sutton, Massachusetts for a fun-filled weekend. They can sign up to paint their own Santa under the guidance of studio artists, take part in educational lectures or simply enjoy the weekend shopping in the Gallery where limited edition pieces are introduced with the lowest production number available. Some collectors come simply

Spring at Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts Tending the tulips in the pleasure garden near the Salem Towne House.

Collector's Weekend Painting Sample Chalkware
Sample, \$180

This blue-eyed, English-style Father Christmas is finished in a classic pallet of reds and browns. The lantern he holds is foiled in gold before painting. The tiny green Father Christmas has lots of detail. Collectors will begin with the chalkware blank and create their own finished Santa.

April 29 – May 1 Sixteenth Annual Vaillancourt Collector's Weekend

to attend the highly anticipated weekend dinner. Collectors will be feted at the Oliver Wight Tavern at Sturbridge Village.

Celebrate 3653 publisher Connie Porcher will be among this year's lecturers. "As a holiday collector, I've always hoped to be able to attend one of these special weekends. I'm on the Saturday afternoon schedule and I'll be talking about antique, vintage and contemporary ornaments. I can't wait!"

For information about this special weekend, please see the insert in this issue, visit the Vaillancourt web site at www.valfa.com or phone 877-665-2244.

