



CELEBRATING
25
Years
Of connecting
collectors to clubs,
and clubs to each other
1992-2017

NCC Silver Rush 2017 *25th Anniversary Gathering*

Silver Express News

JUNE 14-18, 2017 | WWW.NCC56.COM



Less than 100 of the 25th Anniversary Totes remain. Make sure you get yours. When they're gone, they're gone!

GATHERING REGISTRATION UPDATE

Diane Welch,
dianewelch@hotmail.com

If you want the keepsake 25th Anniversary Tote (and all the goodies that will be in the tote, see "Goodie Bag News" on page 4) but haven't registered for the entire weekend, get your reservations in soon.

The [Registration Form](#) is on the website. Diane will e-mail a confirmation when your form and payment have been received. The early bird registration fee (good until February 1, 2017) is \$175.00 for the entire weekend. Please make sure to have a Registration Form for each person attending. Haven't received a confirmation yet? Please check your junk/spam folder before contacting Diane.

A BAD CASE OF "DISPLAY-ITIS"

Mike Goode, Co-Chair
mtgoode@att.net

It's November and in a collector's mind are many things. Perhaps the most pressing question is, "How far along am I in completing my holiday village displays?" Another might be, "Will my favorite retail store still have the piece I need to complete that extra space I added this year?" This is the time of year that I'm asking those questions in addition to about twenty-eight more.

I developed a really bad case of display-itis on August 2 of this year. My wife Trisha would tell you that I was born with it but didn't show any symptoms until I was in my mid-thirties. I get display-itis each year, usually in August; and I've learned over the years that the only cure is the smell of a hot wire pressing against a piece of Styrofoam. This helps to relieve the anxiety but has severe side effects. These side effects vary from one year to the next; but most often they are in the form of thinking I need another accessory piece, maybe three more accessory pieces, more trees, more snow, more lights, and of course, the three lighted houses I saw in the newest Department 56 catalogue.

This disorder usually runs its course for several weeks. It ends at our first open house when we hear the "oohs" and "aahs" of our guests admiring the displays, Christmas trees and holiday decorations in each room.

This June, the NCC is celebrating its 25th Anniversary with a gathering. Like many of you who will be attending, I will arrive and immediately begin to plan my days of seminars, shopping and tours. This will energize me and refill my bucket of creativity with notes, sketches, photos and ideas that I never considered. Unfortunately, this will also push the reset button and intensify my next bout of display-itis. If you share these same symptoms, perhaps we can all meet in a dark corner of the hotel custodial supply room for a therapeutic session...I'll bring the Styrofoam and hot wire.

HOTEL REGISTRATION UPDATE

*Sue Chretien,
schretien@cox.net*

There are only a few rooms still available at the hotel; so if you haven't made your reservations, don't wait too long!

Tempe Mission Palms is an upscale business hotel close to the Mill Avenue District and Mill Ave/3rd Street light rail transit station, and 3.5 miles from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

Warm, modern rooms have WiFi, flatscreens, mini-fridges and coffeemakers. Suites have rainfall showerheads and pull-out sofas.

The roof has an outdoor pool and a tennis court, and there's a fitness center. A restaurant serves Southwestern-inspired fare, and a lounge and a poolside cafe are all on-site.

The hotel is within walking distance to downtown Tempe's Mill Avenue district and over 100 restaurants, bars, and shops.



Our special rate is **\$119.00** plus tax and a \$9.95 Hospitality Fee per room, per day, good from June 11–June 21, 2017 (subject to availability). Group rate available until May 15, 2017 (subject to availability).

Free hotel shuttle from the airport and free parking for hotel guests are available.

Tempe Mission Palms | 60 East Fifth Street | Tempe, Arizona 85281
Reservations: (800) 547-8705 | www.missionpalms.com

When calling, tell them you are part of the NCC or National Council of 56 Clubs to get the group rate.

LIMITED EDITION EVENT PIECES UPDATE

Sue Chretien,
schretien@cox.net

These exclusive accessories are selling fast! If you haven't pre-ordered yours, you should do so soon; otherwise, you'll miss out on these very limited edition accessories. Each accessory will only be available through pre-order on the Gathering [Registration Form](#). Place your order now. When they're gone, they're gone! These accessories will not be re-released as part of Department 56's general accessory line.

Commemorating Our Anniversary: This is an NCC Exclusive Accessory made just for our 25th Anniversary Gathering and available through pre-order.

NCC Silver Anniversary Clock: This is a special platinum paint selected just for the NCC. Where it currently says, "Dept. 56," it will say, "NCC," and the years, "1992-2017," will be on the reverse side.



Commemorating Our Anniversary



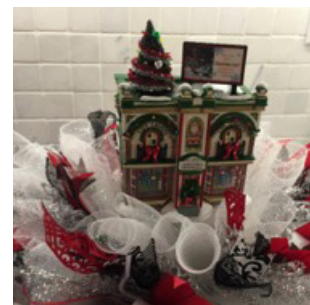
NCC Silver Anniversary Clock

Please note that the images are not to scale and colorization may be slightly different in the final product.

CENTERPIECES NEWS

Debbie Shelgren
debbietcwga@cox.net

Debbie is working hard on creating some unique and gorgeous table centerpieces that will be won by some lucky attendees. For those of you who have seen Debbie's centerpieces at previous Gatherings, you know what a great designer she is. We're showing you a teaser of what you'll see on the tables (each meal will have a different theme centerpiece).



GOODIE BAG NEWS

Jerri & Doyle Fleck
jfleck52@icloud.com

We have some exciting Goodie Bag items. Not only will the first 300 people who register for the entire weekend receive the keepsake tote (shown on page 1), inside that tote will be items that you can use throughout the year, including but not limited to a non-village related item made especially for this Gathering, an accessory, notepads and pens, some sweets to keep you going for the long days of learning and socializing plus some other unique surprises. This will be a Goodie Bag to remember!

MAKE 'N TAKE NEWS

Dan Crossland
dwcross52@yahoo.com

We are looking for volunteers who have a talent for creating a small project that would be suitable for a Make 'n Take session. We are looking for projects that can be completed in an hour and would fit nicely in any village (Christmas, Halloween, spring, summer, etc.).

There will be 20 participants per session. Attendees will sign-up the day of the sessions.

We want to be sure that there are a variety of projects; so if you are interested, send your project ideas along with pictures to Dan.

We are all excited about the Gathering and are looking forward to giving people an opportunity to show off their talents. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Dan.

CALLING ALL “SELFIES”

Robin Hervey,
svrob95@gmail.com

The NCC Silver Rush will produce a photo collage of past Gatherings; and we want you in it! Every effort will be made for you to see yourself and friends in this video intended for Saturday's Gala Dinner. The goal is to have pictures from every Gathering. So, look through your photo album so we all can take a trip down memory lane! Please provide the following information when sending your photos to Robin:

- Send up to five (5) photos (either scanned or jpg quality)
- Pictures are to show people and places of past Gatherings
- Include Gathering date and location of each picture
- Contact Robin if you have questions about which Gathering photos are needed
- E-mail photos to svrob95@gmail.com no later than **April 30, 2017**

Be sure you are part of this evening's program! Thanks for your effort!

DISPLAY CONTEST UPDATE

Joe Meyers,
NCC25DisplayCont@aol.com

Don't forget to enter the display contest either as an individual contributor or as a club. We have categories for everyone. There are no rules that say you can't enter in more than one category, so if you can't decide which category to enter, enter them all!

There are four display categories: Vignette Display, Small Display, Large Display and Club Display. Each display must use a clever implementation of the color silver. All displays must be new (never been judged in any competition). Don't forget—there are cash prizes for the contest, and more importantly—bragging rights for winning!

Vignette: A one-building display using your favorite building accompanied by a narrative telling us why this is your favorite building. Was it a gift? Is it a reminder of a special time in your life? Tell us why you love it! Inspire us! It can be a traditional village scene or a collection of your favorite things that complement the building.

Small Display: *A Little Silver Goes a Long Way.* Cleverly incorporate a silver element into the display for our attendees to look for and find. Tell us where you incorporated silver into your display.

Large & Club Displays: *A Little Silver Goes a Long Way.* Cleverly incorporate a silver element into the display for our attendees to look for and find. Tell us where you incorporated silver into your display. The rest of the display is up to you! Any design, theme or season you want!

Complete rules and [entry form](#) can be found on the website. For additional information, contact Joe.

REHAB CONTEST UPDATE

Brandon Taylor,
mbrandontaylor@aol.com

Have a building that needs some TLC or maybe you just don't like the color for whatever reason? Rehab It! Get out those small paintbrushes, get some silver paint, maybe some glitter and repaint that building. It will make you feel like you just bought a brand new building (without the price tag of a new building)!

For the NCC's 25th Anniversary Gathering there will be a new, exciting, never been done before display contest. The Rehab Display Contest is simple, *A Splash of Silver*. Rehabbed pieces must be either repainted, added to or modified in some way with silver! Use as little or as much as you want! When getting inspired for your display, remember that this is a milestone celebration!

Complete rules and [entry form](#) can be found on the website. For additional information, contact Brandon.

SEMINARS UPDATE

Stephen Pepin,
stephen@showcase-
displays.com

The crew of seminar presenters is nearly fully assembled and working on the exciting seminar topics that everyone at the Gathering will be able to enjoy. In addition to the traditional seminars, there will be a room dedicated to the creation of a display throughout the Gathering, where everyone can drop by anytime, see the progress and try out tools and materials for a hands-on experience!



Meet More of the Gathering Committee

We'll introduce you to several committee chairs in each newsletter plus provide the complete list of committee members and their contact information.

MAKE 'N TAKE CHAIR

Dan Crossland,
dwcross52@yahoo.com



Dan joined the Oklahoma Village Collector's Club when he became aware of the local club while attending the 2009 Region 8 Gathering. He entered the display contest and won 2nd place. OVCC members told him about the club.

Dan's first piece was *Grimsley Manor* and now he has the majority of the Snow Village Halloween pieces and can't choose a favorite Halloween building.

Dan is a retired Public Works Streets & Stormwater Director and loves Halloween and the outdoors.

GOODIE BAGS CHAIR

Jerri & Doyle Fleck,
jfleck52@icloud.com (Jerri)
doyjerfleck@aol.com
(Doyle)



Doyle was elected to serve as Co-President of the Arizona Village Collectors this year, and Jerri is editor of the Club newsletter, *The Cactus Crier*.

We joined AVC because we liked the people. Carol and Bing Ankley were members of our local Hallmark Club, Desert Friends, and introduced us to Department 56. We joined for the camaraderie never expecting to become collectors. We didn't feel we had any room to display D56 with the 100+ Christmas trees we set up, but... we have managed to squeeze in themed displays here and there throughout the house and resorted to putting some displays in the trees themselves.

Disney's *Mickey's Ears Factory* in January 2012 was their first building.

Since it's so hard to pick a favorite building, Doyle *thinks* his favorite is *Radio City Music Hall & the Rockets*. Jerri's is *Rosita's Cantina*.

Doyle retired from the Tucson Fire Department after 33.5 years of service; he works periodically for Hallmark Marketing.

Jerri has been a legal assistant for almost 50 years.

Doyle enjoys golfing and has enjoyed being an assistant coach for the Sahuarita High School Girls Softball team for almost 20 years. He enjoys attending Stephen Pepin's display classes offered at Millie's Hallmark. He loves working with Styrofoam to create displays, and Jerri loves telling him what to do.

Jerri enjoys collecting Hallmark Christmas ornaments and decorating for the holidays. When she retires she plans to resume scrapbooking and travel to places other than Department 56 Gatherings and Hallmark conventions.

CENTERPIECE DECOR CHAIR

Debbie Shelgren,
debbietcwga@cox.net



Debbie has been collecting for more than 25 years. Her Department 56 villages include Snow Village, North Pole, Dickens' and Halloween. The standing joke in her family is about how she got started collecting. Her husband bought her the first building, so he can't complain about how she got hooked on collecting. Even though he does not help in the building of her villages, he is a loyal supporter of her hobby.

In 2004 she discovered Gatherings and clubs. The rest is history. She belongs to California 56 Collectors, Village Addicts Anonymous (VAA), San Diego Fifty-Sixers and the Village Keepers of the Inland Empire. What she loves about the clubs are the people and the camaraderie. She has become friends with so many in the collecting community and considers them part of her extended family because of the shared hobby.

COMPLETE LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sue Chretien,
schretien@cox.net

Contact any of the committee chairs for information on their committee:

Co-chairs: Sue Chretien (schretien@cox.net) and Mike Goode (mtgoode@att.net)
Treasurer: Tom Iacoviello (tiacoviello@yahoo.com)
Secretary: Judy Severance (jseverance@aol.com)
Gathering Registration: Diane Welch (dianewelch@hotmail.com)
Centerpieces: Debbie Shelgren (debbietcwga@cox.net)
Charity: Becky Blue (rblue1950@yahoo.com)
Display Contest: Joe Meyers (NCC25DisplayCont@aol.com)
Goodie Bags: Jerri & Doyle Fleck (jfleck52@icloud.com)
Home Tours: Vanessa Taylor (vtaylor@fastq.com)
Hospitality: Judy & Roger Powell (Judypowell9@gmail.com)
Hotel Decorations: John & Penny Kovach (plk1003@aol.com)
Live Auction: Richard Puckett (rchpuc@aol.com)
Make 'n Take: Dan Crossland (dwcross52@yahoo.com)
Marketplace: Wanda Hildner (detsnow56@aol.com)
Merchandise: Ellen Somerwill (meseashells@yahoo.com)
Prizes: Phil & Connie Volk (pdvsonoita@icloud.com)
Publicity: Sue Chretien and Richard Puckett
Rehab Contest: Brandon Taylor (mbrandontaylor@aol.com)
Seminars: Stephen Pepin (stephen@showcase-displays.com)
Silent Auction: Linda White (lgwhlw@aol.com) and Donna Morrow (dsuemor@aol.com)
Volunteer Coordinator: Ethel Campbell (ethelcampbell3@suddenlink.net)
Website: Pete Baer (SocialMediaCoordinator@ncc56.com)
Wednesday Club Program: Pam Orman (photowizard@bellsouth.net)
D56 Liaison: Lisa Johnson (johnsla@dept56.com)