

NCC Silver Rush 2017 25th Anniversary Gathering

SELICIT ENTERS MAILS

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

Please feel free to share this Gathering information with anyone and everyone. Especially with NON-club members, after all, that's a good first step in finding new members! We welcome all who want to attend and learn about us and our passion for lit houses.

GATHERING REGISTRATION

Diane Welch, dianewelch@hotmail.com The registration fee is **\$185.00** for the entire weekend, which includes three meals and general admission to the seminars, display contests, and marketplace.

The special 25th Anniversary totes and the tours have been sold out.

The <u>**Registration Form</u>** is on the website. Diane will e-mail a confirmation when your form and payment have been received. 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.</u>

NEED A ROOMMATE?

Diane Welch, dianewelch@hotmail.com If you're looking for a roommate for the Gathering, contact Diane as she has a list of people who would like to share a room. Diane will provide the e-mail address to each party and it will be up to you to work out the details.

LESS THAN 120 DAYS-OH MY!

Mike Goode, Co-Chair mtgoode@att.net

This morning when I visited the NCC website (<u>www.ncc56.com</u>) to check on some recent Gathering updates that NCC webmaster Pete Baer had made, I noticed that the countdown bar at the top of the Gathering page indicated that there were less than 120 days remaining until we all gather in Tempe, AZ to celebrate the NCC's 25th Anniversary. Sue Chretien, Richard Puckett, Tom Iacoviello, and I began sharing ideas with one another as far back as 2013. That was when I appointed the NCC's resident events planner, Sue Chretien, to chair the anniversary gathering. My visit this morning to the NCC website confirmed that it definitely has become a reality and is actually less than 4 months away.

With that being said, let me bring everyone up to date with what's happening thus far in the final stages of planning. We learned this week that there are two remaining rooms at the hotel, and we will be investigating the availability of rooms at a nearby hotel. Please encourage those who are still thinking about attending to make their hotel reservations immediately and forward their registration forms to Registration Chair Diane Welch. It looks as though Gathering attendees will almost be occupying every room of the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel.

The seminar assignments are being finalized and should be on the NCC website soon. Seminar Chair Stephen Pepin has worked diligently securing a never before seen group of 12 different seminars with many new presenters. Dan Crossland has secured four Make-n-Take workshops as well. Collectors will want to stop by the Display Room to pitch in and help construct a special display during the Gathering. In addition to the first-time seminars, Department 56's new leader, Michael Griffith, will be joined by Melinda Seegers and Jackie Geiger to share the entire weekend with collectors. Department 56 artists Scott Enter, Tom Bates and Paul Lundberg will make appearances as well. As a special treat for Possible Dreams collectors, Ann Dezendorf will also be in attendance at our special Millie's event.

Display Contest Chair Joe Meyers reports that there are already 16 entries in the display contest. Go to the NCC Gathering web page to learn what Brandon Taylor, Rehab Contest Chair, is doing in the first ever gathering rehab contest.

Those attending the 25th Anniversary Gathering will begin their celebrating on Thursday with home tours. Capping the day will be a special Margaritaville evening at Millie's Hallmark in Phoenix. Food, door prizes, shopping and an artist-signing event are only part of the evening. Gathering attendees will want to rest up later that night so they will be fresh and ready to start Friday morning with special speakers, seminars and the Friday night dinner followed by the NCC's Friday Night Bingo. Saturday will be another day filled with seminars and two special sessions featuring Department 56 personalities. The Saturday evening banquet will close out the day. Sunday morning begins with a farewell breakfast and recognition of what we know will be a successful and fun-filled Gathering. Over 375 collectors have registered for the 25th Anniversary Gathering, and it is still 4 months away. *Is this a celebration or what!*

Finally, as a reminder, you can always get Gathering updates on the website and through the monthly Gathering newsletters. The website has the latest information on event pieces, pins and opportunities to volunteer while at the Gathering. Be sure to check it often. See you in Tempe!

120-119-118-117-116...

HOTEL REGISTRATION

Sue Chretien, schretien@cox.net There are only **two (2)** rooms 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 | <u>www.missionpalms.com</u>

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

GATHERING ACCESSORIES

Richard Puckett, rchpuc@aol.com We are also only five months away from the NCC 25th Anniversary Gathering in Tempe, AZ this coming June. I cannot say enough about what an event this is going to be and the hard work that the committee has put in to make this a stellar event for all! The committee has recently signed off on our two "very limited" accessories and they are already in production. They are shown



in the attached picture alongside of the *NCC Clubhouse*, which was our first exclusive lighted building. Each of these two new accessories features very unique characteristics along with a very, very limited quantity! Did you catch that, VERY LIMITED!

Commemorating Our Anniversary portrays a couple under a silver umbrella carrying an anniversary clock set at "5 to 6". The silver umbrella references the 25th anniversary and the umbrella itself symbolizes the NCC's mission of serving as an umbrella organization for clubs. It also is a direct tie to the previously released *Under The NCC Umbrella* accessories and *Jack's Umbrella Shop*. The NCC 25th Anniversary *Clock* has been specially painted in a platinum paint that was personally chosen for



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.

us by Department 56 Creative Director Rick Jackson. This special town clock features "NCC" on the front and the years "1992-2017" on the back. As previously stated, both of these are designed to coordinate with the previously released NCC items and are easily incorporated into any village display, as well.

Our agreement with Department 56 ensures that these accessories are exclusive to the NCC 25th Anniversary and will only be available through the Gathering. They will not be re-introduced into the village lines for retail sale! You can order yours, today, via the NCC website at <u>www.ncc56.com</u> under the 25th Anniversary tab. In the event that you cannot make it to this awesome event, you may still order the accessories and note on the form who you would like to authorize to pick them up for you. Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide mail delivery. Above all else, we would rather have you come and join us! Don't delay in ordering yours, today as over half of them are already committed!

DISPLAY CONTEST

Joe Meyers,

Don't forget to enter the display contest either as an individual contributor or as a NCC25DisplayCont@aol.com 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.

RIDING TOGETHER ON THE TOURS

Vanessa Taylor vtaylor@fastq.com If you've signed up for the Home Tours and would like to be on the same bus with someone, e-mail Vanessa with your request. Of course, families will be on the same bus as long as they registered together. She will do her best to accommodate everyone.

REHAB CONTEST

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 theme 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 <u>entry form</u> can be found on the website. For additional information, contact Brandon.

CHARITY MAKE 'N DONATE EVENT

Becky Blue rblue1950@yahoo.com



Wish organizations make dreams come true for families with critically ill children. For a week, the heartbreak of a child's illness is temporarily replaced with the happiness and joy of being a normal kid. They get the chance to be normal families, and the

children get to be like all other kids. They take TONS of photos of these once-in-alifetime adventures. This is where Crops of Luv partners with the wish foundations...Volunteers take all of those treasured pictures and turn them into customized memory albums to commemorate the families' experiences. They can then relive their wish vacations over and over for a lifetime. In many ways, you could say that the albums are "tools for healing."

Crops of Luv is the official charity for the *NCC Silver Rush 2017—25th Anniversary Gathering*. This Make 'n Donate is your opportunity to personally meet the Crops of Luv co-founder and president Jody McNelis, hear about the work of this charity, and actually make embellishments that will go into memory albums for families. Join us Saturday afternoon at your leisure to see how this giving organization of volunteers from all over the U.S. and Canada contributes to preserving the memories from families' wish trips. Become one of those volunteers and donate a little of your time to help make items for a Crops of Luv memory album. Who knows, you may decide to become a regular volunteer for Crops of Luv!

Remember that "a life documented is a life remembered."

No experience is necessary. No registration needed. No fee for materials.

CALLING ALL "SELFIES" FROM THE 1992-1998 GATHERINGS

Robin Hervey, svrob95@gmail.com

Robin is working on the video to be played during Saturday's Gala Dinner. If you have pictures of yourself and/or friends from the Gatherings between **1992-1998**, please send them to Robin. The goal is to have pictures from every Gathering, but we're hoping that by dividing the Gatherings up, it won't feel so overwhelming to look through your photos. Of course, if you find photos from other Gatherings, send them along to Robin whenever you find them.

Please provide the following information when sending your photos to Robin:

- Send up to five (5) hi-resolution photos for clear displaying (either scanned or jpg)
- 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

THINGS TO DO

Listed below are some activities if you are spending some extra time in Arizona. The things in the Phoenix area are indoors (except for the Botanical Gardens), remember it will be hot in June, so please limit any outdoor activities to early morning and drink plenty of water. If you have even more time, take a trip north to see the Grand Canyon and Sedona and/or go south to see the village display in the floor, Tombstone and the caverns. If none of these things appeal to you, just search the internet for other activities. There's plenty of malls and casinos also.

Butterfly Wonderland 9500 E. Via de Ventura, Scottsdale, AZ 85256 butterflywonderland.com Phone: (480) 800-3000 Step inside the largest indoor rainforest conservatory in the United States. More than 3,000 butterflies from around the world flutter among the lush tropical plants and flowers, landing for just long enough to capture the perfect photograph. The flowers, trees and plants within the atrium have been chosen precisely for the butterfly species within. Butterfly Wonderland truly is one of the most amazing butterfly conservatories not only in the country, but also in the world.

OdySea Aquarium 9500 E. Via de Ventura, Scottsdale, AZ 85256 odyseaaquarium.com Phone: (480) 291-8000 Located in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, OdySea Aquarium is the largest aquarium in the Southwest, spanning 200,000 square feet. The two-level, state-of-the-art facility holds more than 2 million gallons of water and accommodates up to 10,000 visitors daily. With over 50 exhibits and 500 different species, there are more than 30,000 animals that call OdySea home.

OdySea Aquarium offers an entertaining, interactive, and educational experience for guests of all ages by combining theme-park-style amusement with highly engaging presentations of aquatic life like no other in the industry. The facility includes a 3D theater, SeaTREK[™] underwater ocean walking, and a one-of-a-kind voyage through the "Living Sea."

	Butterfly Wonderland and OdySea are located on the same property so you could spend the entire day and do both.
Heard Museum 2301 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004 www.heard.org Phone: (602) 252-8840	Exhibits devoted to Native American civilizations, including a big collection of Southwestern art.
	The mission of the Heard Museum is to be the world's preeminent museum for the presentation, interpretation and advancement of American Indian art, emphasizing its intersection with broader artistic and cultural themes.
Musical Instrument Museum 4725 E Mayo Blvd, Phoenix, AZ 85050 www.mim.org Phone: (480) 478-6000	MIM displays more than 6,500 instruments collected from around 200 of the world's countries and territories. Most displays are enhanced by state-of-the-art audio and video technologies that allow guests to see the instruments, hear their sounds, and observe them being played in their original contexts—performances that are often as spectacular as the instruments themselves. What's more, all guests are invited to play instruments from around the world in the Experience Gallery. They can also see instruments from music icons such as John Lennon, Taylor Swift, Elvis Presley, Carlos Santana, and many more in the Artist Gallery.
Wrigley Mansion 2501 E Telawa Trail, Phoenix, AZ 85016 www.wrigleymansion.com Phone:(602) 955-4079	Wrigley Mansion, a breathtaking landmark originally constructed in 1932 by chewing gum personality William Wrigley Jr., was thoughtfully designed as a 50th anniversary gift to his beloved wife. Sitting at the top of a hill, the mansion commands spectacular 360-degree views of the mountains and the city below. Its architecture includes curated elements of Spanish, California Monterey and Mediterranean styles.
Rosson House Museum at Heritage Square T113 N 6th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004 heritagesquarephx.org Phone: (602) 261-8063	The Rosson House Museum is a fully-restored 1895 Queen Anne Victorian house museum which interprets the history of Phoenix. Tours of the house include all living areas and offer visitors a glimpse into the lifestyles of early Phoenix families. Admission to the Rosson House Museum is by guided tour only.
	Our wonderful docents will lead you through the Museum, telling the stories of the residents who lived there, the history of Territorial Arizona, and interesting tidbits about Victorian America.
Phoenix Art Museum 1625 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004 www.phxart.org Phone: (602) 257-1222	An institution of exciting art and learning since 1959, Phoenix Art Museum has become the largest art museum in the southwestern United States, providing access to art from all over the world to the people of Arizona. Throughout the year the museum presents festivals, live performances, independent art films, plus family and school educational programs that enlighten, entertain and stimulate. Its unique setting is a wonderful choice to host an event such as a holiday party, business luncheon or even a very special ceremony.
Desert Botanical Garden 1201 N Galvin Pkwy, Phoenix, AZ 85008 www.dbg.org Phone: (480) 941-1225	The Garden's commitment to the community is to advance excellence in education, research, exhibition and conservation of desert plants of the world with emphasis on the Southwestern United States. The Garden is always a compelling attraction that brings to life the many wonders of the desert.
	Garden opens at 7:00 a.m. during the summer months. If you go, make sure you drink plenty of water.

Grand Canyon Northern Arizona, about 3½ hours www.nps.gov/grca/ index.htm	 Northern Arizona, 2-4 hours from the host hotel Unique combinations of geologic color and erosional forms decorate a canyon that is 277 river miles (446km) long, up to 18 miles (29km) wide, and a mile (1.6km) deep. Grand Canyon overwhelms our senses through its immense size. If you have a couple of days, another option is to take The Train from Williams to the Grand Canyon, packages include hotel, meals and train, see www.thetrain.com for details.
Sedona Northern Arizona, about 2 hours www.visitsedona.com	Start with scenery that makes your heart leap. Sedona nestles among a geological wonderland. Multi-hued stone formations jut upwards from the high desert floor creating a vivid, mesmerizing setting that changes hourly with the light. When USA Weekend compiled their Most Beautiful Places in America list, Sedona claimed the top spot
	Sedona is on the way to the Grand Canyon, so you can combine the two scenic views in the same trip.
Tombstone Southern Arizona, about 3 hours www.tombstoneweb.com	Southern Arizona, 2-3 hours from the host hotel Walk the very same streets here in Tombstone that Doc Holliday, Wyatt Earp, Johnny Ringo, Ike Clanton and a host of other Western Legends walked over 130 years ago. You can just feel the history here! This is the most authentic Western Town left in the United States!
Kartchner Caverns Benson, AZ 85602 Southern Arizona, about 2½ hours www.azstateparks.com/ kartchner	In November 1974, Gary Tenen and Randy Tufts were exploring the limestone hills at the eastern base of the Whetstone Mountains. They were looking "for a cave no one had ever found" and found it. The two kept the cave a secret until February 1978 when they told the property owners, James and Lois Kartchner, about their awesome discovery. Since unprotected caves can be seriously damaged by unregulated use, they knew the cave had to be protected. Tenen and Tufts spent several years looking into the possibility of developing the cave themselves. Some members of the Kartchner family lived in Tucson and were very impressed with the development and operation of Catalina State Park by Arizona State Parks. They decided to approach State Parks to see if the agency was interested in acquiring this outstanding resource.
The Mini Time Machine Museum 4455 E. Camp Lowell Drive Tucson, AZ 85712 about 2½ hours theminitimemachine.org Phone: (520) 881-0606	From antique to contemporary, these miniatures come to life and tell a story in their
	state-of-the-art displays and settings. There's a Snow Village display in the floor and North Pole displays in the windows.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

Ethel Campbell	If you would like to volunteer at the Gathering, please use the sign-up form at the
ethelcampbell3@	end of this newsletter and send to Ethel. Even though people sign-up at the
suddenlink.net	Gathering, Ethel would like to get a head start on organizing everyone.

SEMINAR PRESENTERS

Stephen Pepin, stephen@showcasedisplays.com

Brandon Taylor Presenter As we get the seminar topics from the presenters, we will showcase one or two of the presenters in each of the upcoming newsletters.

Rehabbing a Village

A splash of paint, a dab glue or a dash of glitter. Rehabbing Villages have become increasingly more popular. The reasons for it varies from a lack of a piece or the need for a piece that hasn't been made. Department 56 has been outstanding at making sure our village is well rounded but sometimes our village needs something different or unique. In this seminar there will be examples of several different rehabs with ideas on how to rehab a house or accessory for your own display. Repainting a village piece is a time consuming art. There will also be a discussion of techniques and paints used. Brandon will share a slideshow of his past rehabs (including gathering award winning Black & White North Pole) included in the slideshow will also be rehabs from other collectors. This is the first time that rehabbing will be discussed in a seminar at a gathering, also a first at this Gathering is a display contest dedicated to rehabs. Be prepared to share your own rehab experiences.

Ellen Somerwill and Joe Meyers, Presenters



What's Happening At Your Village Church?

Do you display your church with a minister, with a wedding, a sign, a graveyard? We will share ideas on how to bring your church alive. Examples of displays inspired by actual church activities will be shared. Have you ever been to a baptism for animals, a bingo, fair, etc. at a church? After hearing easy to implement ideas you'll never display your village church in the same way.

Where Attendees Are Coming From

The map shows where attendees are coming from for the Gathering as of publication time. At the Gathering we will have the actual numbers from each state and Canada.



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.

WEDNESDAY CLUB PROGRAM

Pam Orman, photowizard@bellsouth.net

Pam belongs to the Magnolia 56ers and got started collecting when she saw a village display in a gift shop near where she worked. Loved the North Pole village and decided to buy a few pieces starting with North Pole Start a Tradition Gift Set

Pam is an Audit Manager and Vice President at a bank. Also, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with a small tax practice at home.

Pam is an all natural professional bodybuilder with the National Gym Association.

Several years ago, some members of the club were at an open house at a gift shop next door to the bank on D56 retirement day. They were handing out club brochures and that is how she discovered that a club existed.

LIVE AUCTION

Richard Puckett, rchpuc@aol.com



Richard is a member of the Magnolia 56ers in Jackson, MS and presently serves as the President of the National Council of 56 Clubs (NCC). He is the editor of *Village D-Tails* and a contributing writer for *Village D-Lights* and *Treasurers* magazines. He has been an avid collector and archivist of Department 56 products as well as Department 56 collectible history for over thirty years.

We're looking forward to seeing you!

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) and Tish Goscicki (parrott56@ att.net) **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)



Volunteer Sign-up Form

If you would like to volunteer in helping at the Gathering, please fill out the following information and email to Ethel Campbell (ethelcampbell3@suddenlink.net) by May 1, 2017.

There are many areas that need assistance, including but not limited to: Giving out raffle tickets, assisting at the registration desk, helping in the prize room, helping in the hospitality room, helping in the seminar rooms, assisting with the setup of the silent auction items, and helping in the display contest room.

Name:
Address:
City:
State & Zip:
Phone #:E-mail:
Committee(s) you would like to help on, if you are willing to help out in any area, please write Any :
1
2
3
4
Time(s) you would be available to volunteer (check all that apply):
Friday MorningSaturday MorningSunday MorningFriday AfternoonSaturday AfternoonAny TimeFriday EveningSaturday EveningSaturday Evening