

From the first NCC meeting submitted by Billy Edwards

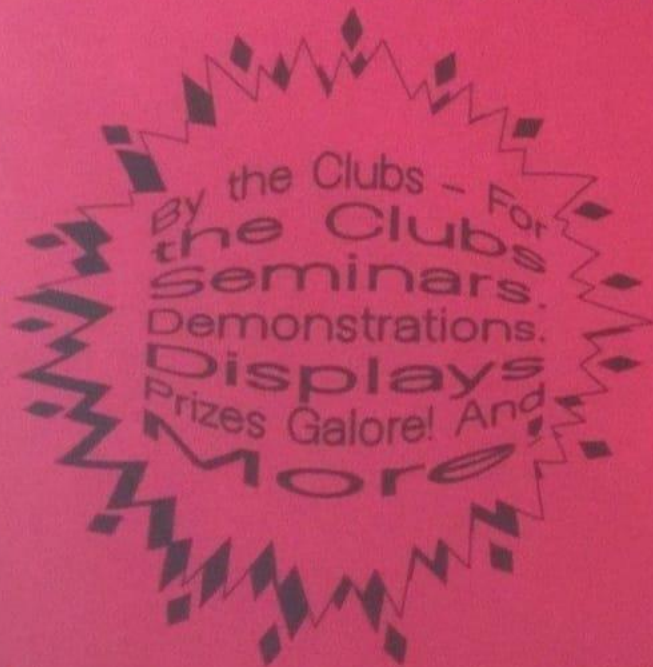
36 clubs were present. It was announced that the number of regions were being increased from 7 to 10. Roger Mikos presented the new Bylaws. My favorite highlight over the weekend were bus trips to One Village Place. Busses left every 12 minutes both days - once there you could take your time and just come back when you liked (when you got back on the bus you received a Dept-56 license plate cover). One of the pictures is the Dickens Room at One Village Place. The new Disney Village was on display at the Gathering. Also, this was the year of the dealer Black Vans - Bachman's was the first of the 13. Rebecca Fulton's North Pole display with the fish bowl basement was one of displays. The photos included our Air Cap 56ers newsletter I wrote afterwards, as well as the next NCC Bulletin. It was such a great NCC First Annual Convention.

National Council of "56" Clubs' First Annual Convention



Minneapolis, MN
Convention Center
August 26-27-28, 1994

(Held in conjunction with the Bachman Village Gathering)



**Order Tickets Early!
Don't Miss Out!**

Rally Tickets \$10.00 Dinner Tickets \$30.00
(can be purchased separately)

Make checks payable to NCC and mail to:

Cathy Gernand

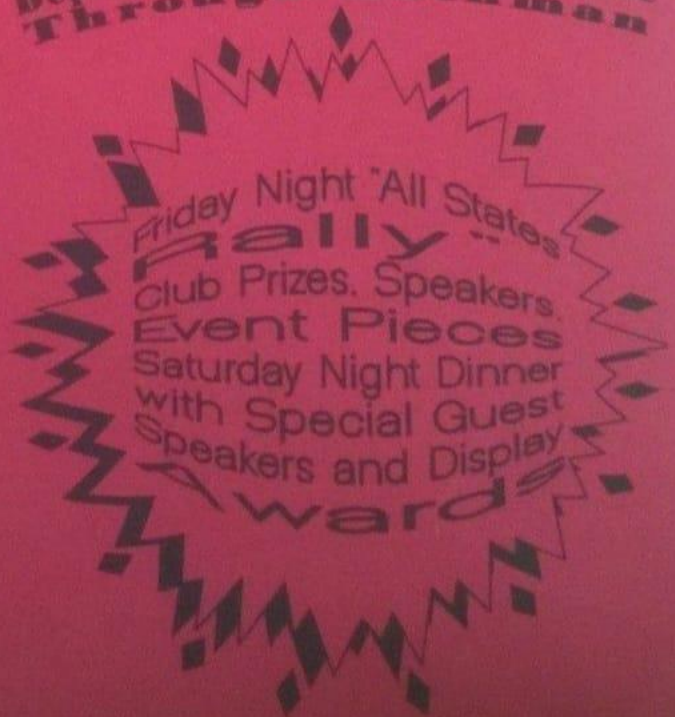
P. O. Box 858

Windsor Locks, CT 06098

(Please enclose a self-addressed
stamped envelope and allow 6-8 weeks
for processing)

- Make Reservations Now!
- + Hyatt Regency (1-800-233-1234 or 1-612-370-1234)
 - + Luxeford Suites (1-612-332-6800)
 - + Park Inn International (1-800-437-7275)
Note: Rooms blocked at above hotels for Bachman and NCC
 - + Crown Sterling Suites (1-800-433-4600)
 - + Marriott City Center (1-800-228-9290)
 - + Hotel Normandy/Best Western (1-800-528-1234)
 - + Executive Suites (1-612-339-9010)

**Department 56 Tours Available
Through Bachman**





October 1994
Volume 2 Issue 3

NCC Bulletin

A Publication of the National Council of "56" Clubs

The Wagner's Write

The NCC club social event of the year, The Rally, was held on Friday evening of the convention. Over 1400 people from member clubs were in attendance. A number of clubs chose this gala event to parade their clubs in grand style - costumes, hats, floats, dances, and songs. Prizes were awarded to nine clubs for their outstanding presentations. The fact that some clubs chose to "dress up and step out", they set the standard for next year's rally! Many clubs that marched indicated that they will follow suit next year and win the prizes themselves. The challenge is on!! Lynn and I had the good fortune to preside over this "first" in the Nation - "The Parade of States Club Rally". We can't wait for the future!

In all, over fifty prizes were awarded to clubs covering all categories from newsletters to clothing. A great awards ceremony followed the club parade! Paul Bachman of Bachman's and Judith Price of Department 56 welcomed the clubs to Minneapolis and their night of fun and frivolity. The Rally event, we believe, adds another dimension to collecting our Department 56 Houses and Snowbabies.

The roll call of clubs by states triggered the parade of clubs. In all some 125 clubs' names were called and 50 associate members were referred to and honored by green NCC plaques adorning the stage. What growth in one year!

For those who attended, there was the opportunity to purchase the NCC 1994 event piece - a "green" ringmaster carrying a sign saying NCC '94-'56". For their admission fee all attendees received a tote bag bearing the logo and name of the event, a button on which to write their name, an NCC 1994 convention pin, and information provided by NCC Associate Members. NCC sweatshirts and tee shirts honoring the First National Convention were also sold.

Incidentally, the event piece can be purchased from the NCC on supplied forms up to November 1, 1994, after which it will no longer be produced. Other items for sale will be on a "first come" basis until sold out.

Throughout the Rally and again during the NCC dinner on Saturday night a raffle was held for Jean-Marie Dickens signed limited edition houses. The funds raised, some \$2,000, was presented to Jean-Marie, our featured dinner speaker, on Saturday evening for her Dickens Heritage Foundation. We were very pleased to be able to present this rather substantial amount to this most worthwhile charitable endeavor.

Also at the Saturday NCC dinner, recognition was paid to all of the NCC Board Members and their spouses who gave so tirelessly of their personal time and expense for twelve months to help bring about this first annual NCC convention. As a token of appreciation, they were presented with a "gold" ringmaster by the Co-Presidents. After all, we reasoned, if Department 56 could have a gold "van", the NCC could have a gold "man".

Todd Bachman, Department 56 President, welcomed the Club Members at dinner, some 560, and noted the great fellowship which comes from collecting, which the NCC fosters daily and which was being experienced during this weekend. Joan Serena and Judith Price from Department 56 and Paul Bachman and Joan Lawless from Bachman's were also in attendance. Paul gave greetings to our group and presented the Bachman's display awards. Incidentally, the Bachman's display grand prize went to our newly formed NCC club, The Gulf Coast Villagers in Sarasota, Florida! In addition to the Bachman's awards, the NCC gave ten awards to club members displaying at the Bachman's Village Gathering. Good food, fellowship, recognition awards and a great time was everywhere to be had.

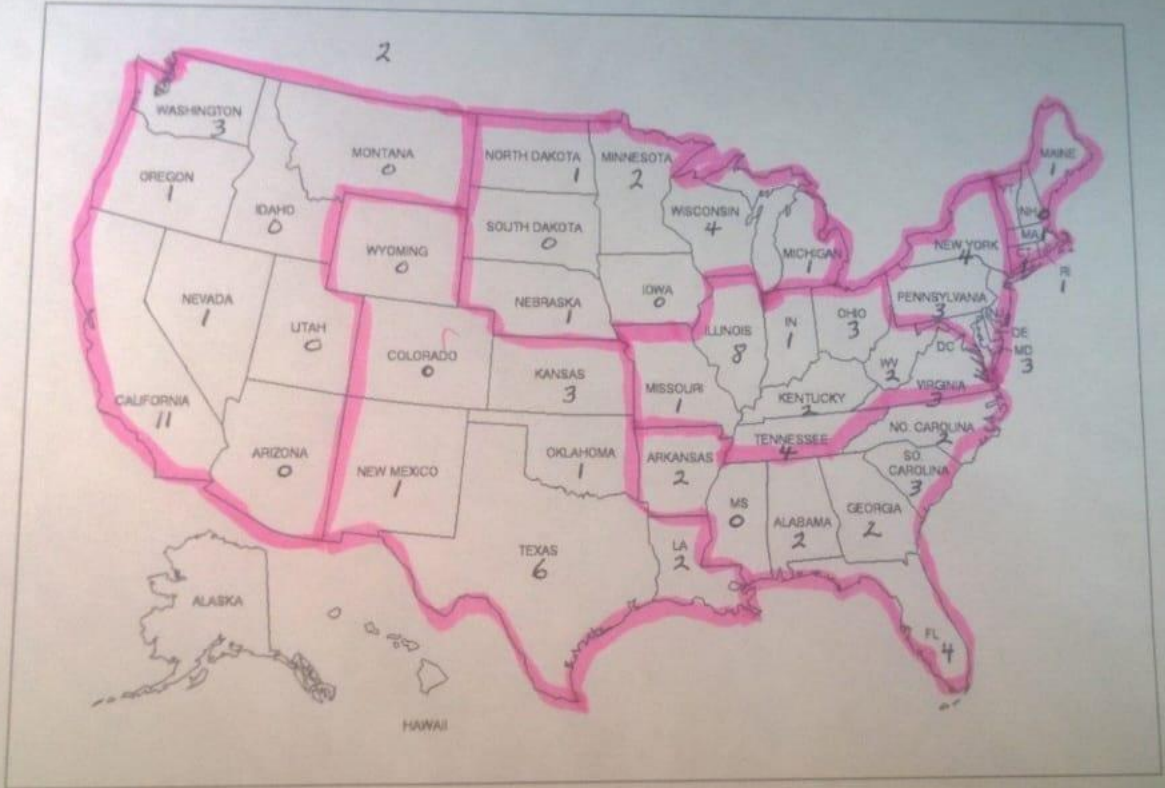
We believe we can say that the NCC clearly achieved its objective - a fun filled First Annual Convention! We thank everyone who attended and those who gave so much of themselves to help put this all together, particularly, the host city clubs "The Saintry City 56ers", "The Northern Lights" and particularly Diane Knowlton and her "crew". Kay Taylor put together the convention and Cathy Gernand the dinner. Thanks loads! Also, congratulations to Betty Lombardi for receiving the "Founders Award" and to Paul Bachman, Judith Price, Jack Skeels and Kay Taylor for receiving the "Presidents' Awards".

Sunday, our last day, we held the Annual Members Meeting. new bylaws were presented which were designed to perpetuate the NCC and provide for orderly functioning, representation and transition. A nice piece of work, Roger Mikos!

Lord willing, we will be back next year with a bigger and bolder fun filled annual convention. We suggest you plan for it, we are! Mark September 8, 9, and 10, 1995, Minneapolis, Minnesota Convention Center, on your calendars. We'll also see you around the country this year at Department 56 Gatherings, club meetings and regional meetings. A special welcome to the newly appointed NCC Board who will serve out this next year as we implement the club, state, regional and national voting process. We're excited - know you will be too!

In Clubs,

Maps - U.S. States



HAWAII
1



AIR CAP 56ers
September 7, 1994



SHOW TIME!!!!

The big shows are beginning. The South Bend Show was in mid July. D-56 was there. I understand they had a large walk around display that was great. Everyone is real excited about the mid-year releases. They gave away the posters and some "House for Sale" pins.

Bachman's Gathering in Minneapolis was August 27 and 28. Kenneth and Leona, Clarke and Jo Ann, and Sharon and I attended. We were able to order the following merchandise with our tickets and it was already packaged and ready for pick up when we arrive:

Mid-Year Releases (the SV Fisherman's Nook and Cabins are GREAT!)

The Dedlock Arms ornament (Sharon got hers signed by Jeanne Marie Dickens)

A Black Van called Bachman's Village Van (has Bachman's logo on one side)

As you entered, you drew an English Cracker and popped it to see what your surprise was. Most of ours contained free D-56 Posters, but some contained retired buildings at retail, some the Dedlock Ornaments, and some discounts on specific items. In addition, there were three rows of Swap and Sell booths for retired pieces, newsletters, and display items. The Display Contest had 36 entries (each limited to 12 pieces). The center area contained Bachman's Display, a General Store where you could buy things you didn't pre-order (the new Greenbook is always available here first - yep, we got one), A Swap and Sell Bulletin Board. Upstairs, was Bingo for D-56 pieces and accessories. They also had the new Disney Village on display (most of us were a little disappointed - maybe we were expecting too much.) I attended two interesting seminars - one on the Secondary Market and one on Insurance. They also had free bus trips to Bachman's Lynddale store.

I believe that the highlight for everyone were the tours of the D-56 Showrooms. Busses ran every 12 minutes both days. However, once you got there you were free to look at your own pace and could catch any bus back downtown. I still like the Snow Village display best. It is a large panoramic display with the houses in chronological order. The Heritage series are in shadow boxes with the limited pieces all together on a large glassed in table. There is a Charles Dickens' Room. The thing that surprises most people are the displays of the other things that D-56 markets. There is a whole line of decorative pencils, Ted D. Bear, a Rodeo series of items, a Lake series, a Grizzly series, a Tour the USA series. They gave each of us a D-56 License Plate holder when we got back on the bus. On the way home from Minneapolis, we bought a small fishing vest with zippers and fishing hooks from the Lake series and a Ted D. Bear to wear it. I also bought a salt and pepper shaker set that looks like a tent and a small woody station wagon so I could put the tent in my Snow Village.

The National Council of Clubs 1st Annual Convention was held in conjunction with the Bachman's Gathering. On Friday night there was a large rally with a "parade of states". The Village Krewe from New Orleans were dressed for Mardi Gras and threw beads and cups to the crowd. The Tennessee clubs were dressed like famous Tennessee people (Elvis, Davy Crockett), the Kentucky clubs wore jockey silks and pulled a small horse. A couple of men from the Joplin club and two ladies we know from the Tulsa club were also there. It was fun, but a little too long. Most of us were wanting to get back to the hotels. The Dickens Exchange was sponsoring a Room Hop on Friday night after the Rally at both the Normandy Hotel and the Athletic Club. Saturday, Sharon and I had lunch with several people from other clubs that I had met and corresponded with through the D-56 Bulletin Board on Prodigy on the computer. The NCC

sponsored a dinner on Saturday night with Jeanne Marie Dickens, but none of our group attended. Again, we opted for a Swap and Sell that the Dicken's Exchange sponsored at the Athletic Club. We each were able to find at least one piece that we had to have! On Sunday, Kenneth and Leona attended a breakfast with Lynda Blankenship from the Dicken's Exchange.

I attended the National Council of Clubs business meeting on Sunday. They have adopted a set of bylaws that we should be getting with the next Club To Club Bulletin. They have reorganized the regions. There are now 10 regions. Most of the regions cover five states. We are no longer in the Southwest Region with Texas and Oklahoma. Our new region includes Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming. I'm not sure how many clubs are in our region. Each club in a state will have two representatives on a state board of directors. Each state will have two representatives (from different clubs) on a regional board of directors. Each region will have two representatives (from different states) on a national board of directors. The national board will decide the site of future conventions. They hope that the clubs will elect their two representatives this Winter and that the new regions will be organized by next Spring. The plan is to have everything in place by the National Convention next year. They have not selected a site yet. Bachman's has volunteered to host it again. However, several members have suggested other sites. In fact, I understand that the Texas clubs have asked to have it along with their "Texas Roundup" next July.

The D-56 Quarterly announced 13 special company-sponsored "Gatherings" with Bachman's being the first. These are "Black Van" gatherings (they are like the original Black Van, but has the shops logo on one side and door). Judith Price, Rhonda Ritchie, Jeanne-Marie Dickens and other D-56 VIPs will be at most of these. They are ticket events. In some cases a portion of the ticket price will go towards purchases. They each will have other activities similar to Bachman's. They are as follows:

Bachman's	Minneapolis, MN	Aug 27 & 28
Lock, Stock & Barrel	Rochester, NY	Sept 17 & 18
Christmas Dove	Barrington, NH	Sept 17 & 18
The Limited Edition	Merrick, NY	Sept 24 & 25
Incredible Christmas Place	Pigeon Forge, TN	Sept 24 & 25
Robert's Christmas Wonderland	Clearwater, FL	Oct 1 & 2
Fortunoff's	Westbury, NY	Oct 8 & 9
Stats Floral	Pasadena, CA	Oct 8 & 9
North Pole City (OK Ragene)	Oklahoma City, OK	Oct 15 & 16
Bronner's	Frankenmuth, MI	Oct 21 & 22
William Glen	Sacramento, CA	Oct 22 & 23
European Imports	Niles, IL	Oct 29 & 30
The Windsor Shop	Windsor, CT	Nov 12 & 13

Two other Gatherings that will have the Black Vans, but were not on the D-56 list are:

Strawbridge & Clothier	Philadelphia, PA	Nov 11 & 12
The Lemon Tree	Gatlinburg, TN	Nov 23 - 27

You will note that the North Pole in Oklahoma City is having one of the 13 special Gatherings. We have received a flyer about it. There are four sessions and the ticket for each is \$5. It will be held at Leadership Square in downtown Oklahoma City. The event piece is the Black Van (\$25) and it is only available to attendees. The new Postern commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the Dickens Collection will be available, as well as the other mid-year releases. Jeanne Marie Dickens will be there and will sign a limited quantity of the "Dedlock Arms" ornament. They will have about 20 entries in their Display Contest (I believe that a friend of ours from Fort Worth, Sandra Beckwith, will be displaying her Kenilworth Castle). There will be a



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF "56" CLUBS
651 PERIMETER DRIVE, SUITE 600
LEXINGTON, KY 40517

Dear National Council Convention/Bachman Gathering Visitor,

Welcome! We are so glad you are here at our very First National Convention! We hope that you will enjoy the activities provided by the Council and by Bachmans'. The activities are as follows:

Friday, August 26 All States Rally - Convention Center Ballroom doors, open at 6:15 PM.

Saturday & Sunday, August, 27 & 28 NCC/Bachman Gathering Events - Convention Center Exhibit Hall.

Seminar Schedule is as follows:

10:00 AM Using the Secondary Market (NCC)

11:30 AM You Asked for It-Again (Dept. 56)

1:00 PM The Well-Dressed Village (Dept. 56)

2:30 PM Insuring Your Collection (NCC)

Displays, Workshops, Current and Secondary sales, etc..on-going daily to ticket holders.

Saturday, August 27 NCC Dinner - Convention Center Room 103 (all dinner tickets have been sold, so if you have a ticket, we will see you there!) Doors open at 6:15 PM.

Sunday, August 28 NCC Annual Meeting - Convention Center (NCC Meeting Room 103) 12:30 PM (For NCC Club Representatives only).

The National Council of "56" Clubs First Convention Event Piece

This piece will be available in limited quantities at the Convention. When these are sold, the piece can be ordered on specified forms up to October 1, 1994. After October 1, the piece will be retired. The cost of the piece is \$15.00.

Have a wonderful time at the Convention and The Gathering!

Happy Collecting!

Co-presidents

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF "56" CLUBS
MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA
AUGUST 28, 1994

- I. Meeting called to order (Alan Wagner)
- A. Welcome
 - B. Roll Call of all member clubs/Remembrances
 - C. Special guests
 - D. Thank you to Paul Bachman, Joan Lawless of Bachmans and staff
Thank you to Judith Price, Joan Serena, Todd Bachman, and staff
- II. Secretary's Report (Sue Henderson)
- 10/30 Planned Convention* A. Summary of general informational meetings and Member Club Meeting in Williamsburg March 5, 1994
 - B. Summary of minutes from Executive Board Meeting in South Bend July 16, 1994
- III. Treasurer's Report (Doug Beck)
- IV. FYI Report (Lynn Wagner)
- A. Executive Board Reports
 - 1. Bylaws - Roger Mikos
 - 2. Convention Resources - Kay Taylor - Lawsons Scoggins
 - 3. Council Social Committee - Cathy Gernand
 - 4. Club Activities - Kay Taylor
 - 5. Club to Club Bulletin - Publicity - Marianne Moore - Pat Ray *Guide to communication*
 - 6. Displays - Saundra Beckwith
 - 7. Membership/New Clubs - Area Representatives - Agnes Ciros - Muriel Burdick - Rebecca Fulton - Sue Henderson - Diane Knowlton - Betty Lombardi - Marge Pelletier
 - 8. Fund raising Committee - Charles Baker
 - B. Report and Recommendations from the Executive Board meeting held Thursday, August 25
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business
- 1. Board Recommendations
 - 2. Next meeting - Williamsburg, March 31, April 1&2
- VII. Adjourn

127 Clubs / 36 at meeting

\$ 35,295 Income

19,396 Expense

Clubs Represented at the General Meeting, August 28, 1994

Alaska Villagers
Valley Villagers, CA
56 Cobblestone Lane
San Diego 56ers
Village Landlords
Gulf Coast Villagers
Aloha Villagers
Windy City 56ers
Village Tinkers
Wacky Willagers
Heartland Villagers
Hoosier 56ers
Aircap 56ers - 50% present
Bluegrass 56ers
Village Crew
Village Collectors of MI
Saintly City 56ers
Northern Lights
Village 56ers River City Chapter
Central Iowa - DesMoines
Village Keepers
56 Realtors
OK Village Collector Club
D56 Collectors of Central PA
Palmetto 56 Collectors Club
Cobblestone Peddlers
Pyramid 56ers
Flakes
Ft.Worth Village 56ers SW Chapter
Conroe Collectors Club
Texas Villagers
NCAVCC
Madhouse 56ers
56 Street Collectors Club
Crazy Cottage Collectors
Gateway 56ers
Sparkling City Villagers



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF '56' CLUBS



Sharon
Edwards

Minneapolis, Minnesota August 1994











