



The University of ChicaGlow educational chairs, Ginger Fry and Kim Knight, have lined up an exciting series of educational talks, we introduce your professors.

1. Sensational Santas Cory Adams – Tampa, FL



I began selling country primitives in 1994. Five years later I began collecting and selling Christmas items. When I joined the Golden Glow of Christmas Past in 2009, I learned a lot more about early Christmas, which is what I am drawn to. I prefer items that date from the 1930s and prior. Candy containers have always been a favorite of mine. Therefore, I'm happy to share my knowledge with you about early Santa candy containers at the Chicago convention.

2. Victorian Ornaments: Who are these characters? Lillie Ghidiu – Newark, NY



Lillie Ghidiu has been an active Golden Glow member since 1985, serving as a board member for 2 terms, membership chairperson, Your Time to Shine columnist, treasurer (2009 to 2020) and most recently as a copy editor for The GLOW. At every convention she has found something different to collect, including pinecone figures, kugels, and Victorian glass ornaments. She has always been curious about the cultural influences on ornament designers. Her educational talk will provide context for many of the characters depicted in decorations from the 1880s through 1920s.

3. Jewelry for the Christmas Tree : Czech Beaded Ornaments Jim Slattery - WI



Jim Slattery lives in southern Wisconsin and has been collecting Czech beaded Christmas ornaments since 2002. His talk, *Jewelry for the Christmas Tree*, will include a brief overview of the glass bead and costume jewelry industry in the area around Jablonec (German, *Gablonz*) in northern Czech Republic, as well as a close look at the beautiful and distinctive ornaments made there for well over 100 years.

4. Saving the Elephants- the Invention of Celluloid Co-presenter, Anita Behrens - Wayzata, MN



Collecting has been a part of my life for many years. During my career I traveled around the country, which gave me the opportunity to visit antique malls and attend antique shows. I was able to expand my collection and discovered a passion for celluloid holiday items. I have been a member of Golden Glow for years and have enjoyed everything about the club. Being a native of Minnesota we never had to dream about a white Christmas as it always happened! As a child my large family would gather for a trip to the tree farm to cut down our tree, quite an adventure. Then the decorating - one of my favorite parts was hanging the popcorn garland that we had made. Each year my mother very carefully stored it to use again the next year, and now, fifty plus years later, it is still being used! This year, my friend Edwina Campbell, who I partnered with in the past to create articles about celluloid, and I, will be sharing the history of celluloid in our presentation "Saving the Elephants- the Invention of Celluloid".

**Saving the Elephants- the Invention of Celluloid Co-presenter, Edwina Campbell
Newark - OH**



My first Golden Glow convention was in Ashville, NC in 2016. It was a wonderful experience, and I instantly fell in love with the club and of course, with all the delightful, whimsical activities that are part of conventions and the celebration of Christmas.

I'm from Ohio and have dedicated my life to children and education – having taught everything from kindergarten to college graduates. Being around students, no matter what age, lends itself to loving the holiday seasons. My family consists of three grown children grandmother of seven. It is an honor to be a presenter at the GGCP convention this year and to be working closely with my dear friend, Anita Behrens.

**5. Mid-Century Christmas... A Celebration in Plastics Chuck Braden - New
Knoxville, Ohio**



A long time ago in an antique mall far far away, I came across a piece of Christmas plastic in the original box. 20 years later my passion to collect Christmas styrene plastics in their original packaging has continued to grow. Being able to share my passion by giving talks at Glohio and the Mistletoe event have been very rewarding. The most fun is to meet so many wonderful people who have amazing Christmas collections!

6. Gurley Candles: Christmas Decorations...Not for Burning! Robin Miller – Yorkville, IL



My collection of Gurley candles began with those from my Mom, which I fondly remember as part of her holiday decorations. Over the years my passion for these precious decorations from the past has grown. I have increased my knowledge of their history as I have continually added to my collection! I appreciate the opportunity to share the knowledge I have obtained with my fellow Christmas collectors at this year's convention.

7. Aluminum Christmas Trees: The Chicago Master Class Kelly McClure – Hilton Head Island, SC



After 15 years of collecting, aluminum Christmas trees still evoke mystery and intrigue for Kelly McClure. In addition to curating a collection exceeding 100 trees, Kelly is also an avid aluminum Christmas tree scholar and historian. Her master class on Chicago's manufacturers will illuminate Chicagoland as the epicenter of aluminum tree production, focusing on the early years as well as the unique contributions of each manufacturer.