

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Autumn 2016

Club and Chapter News

2017 NAGC Annual Seminar

May 11–13, 2017

The 2017 NAGC Seminar will be held from Thursday, May 11 through Saturday, May 13. Based in the West Virginia capitol of Charleston, it will highlight three of the state's most notable glass treasures.

We will go beyond the limited observation area during our visit to the Blenko Glass Company, a family-owned business that has been in operation since 1893, with special access to roam the factory floor. You will not want to miss this singular opportunity to see, close up, the creation of beautiful, colorful Blenko glass as well as how pieces are then sorted and packaged for delivery around the world.

On to the Huntington Museum of Art, the largest art museum in West

Virginia, with displays that focus on glass manufactured in West Virginia and the Ohio Valley. The museum also houses an exceptional collection of American and European paintings, sculptures, prints, drawings, American folk art, Chinese and Japanese decorative items, and much more.

The West Virginia Museum of American Glass showcases our American glass heritage with displays of more than 18,000 glass objects from multiple glass houses in a huge variety of patterns, colors, and forms, including a recent acquisition of a noteworthy collection of Steuben glass that will be on view in time for our visit.

Free time will allow for exploration of Charleston's beautiful Capitol Building and interactive Capitol Mu-

seum, the downtown area, and the annual yard/estate sale held in Charleston's 20-block historic district.

Our Seminar home base, the Charleston Marriott Town Center, is providing a very reasonable rate, free parking, and free shuttle to and from the airport. It is conveniently located to a variety of restaurants and stores. Mark your calendar now and plan to come explore West Virginia and learn all about its special glass history.

* * *

Lowell Innes Pittsburgh Chapter Bus Trip

Friday, November 11, 2016

Please join the members of the Lowell Innes Pittsburgh Chapter for a bus trip to the Museum of American Glass, Weston, WV. Highlights include a tour of 201 pieces of Steuben glass, hosted by curator Tom Felt. There will be an opportunity to browse the glass in the museum's collection and visit the gift shop. After lunch there will be a glassblowing demonstration and time to shop in the area's antique stores. Please contact Mary E. Lamica for further details at (412) 257-2237 or mlamica@comcast.net.



Blenko Fish.

Carnival Glass Highlighted at Founders Chapter Annual Meeting

During the Annual Meeting of the Founders Chapter, held on May 11, 2016, Gary Sullivan and Steve Lindquist presented “Carnival Glass: Amazing Colors and Iridescence,” which included an amazing display of Carnival Glass from six different makers, all manufactured from 1908 to the 1920s. The companies included Fenton, Northwood, Dugan/Diamond, Imperial, Millersburg, and Westmoreland. The glass was designed to be mass-produced and was inexpensive at the time it was made. When the companies went out of business or stopped making the products, they were sold very cheaply and often became prizes at carnivals, hence the name.

Carnival Glass is either pressed or blown in a mold and gets its iridescence from metallic salts that were sprayed on the hot glass before it was heated a second time.



Gary Sullivan (left) and Steve Lindquist (right) stand by a display of Carnival Glass.

In the 1950s, Fenton and Imperial started to reissue some of the pieces. These are all marked to indicate that they are not vintage pieces. Both of these glass companies are now closed,

but Mosser in Cambridge, Ohio, is still making some pieces. It is highly collectible and there are 15–20 clubs across the country dedicated to this beautiful genre of glass.

* * *

Westchester Glass Club Happenings

The Westchester Glass Club traveled to the Queens Museum in Corona, NY, to be dazzled by the new exhibit, “A Passion for Tiffany Lamps,” organized by The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass (neustadtcollection.org). The exhibition highlights the extraor-



Lindsy Parrott discusses some of Tiffany's lamps during the Westchester Glass Club's visit to The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass.

dinary scope of the Neustadts' collection. Hosted and guided by NAGC Board member and Director/Curator of the Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass, Lindsy Parrott, Club members were guided through this beautiful exhibit and were given detailed information about Tiffany's glass lamps as well as an in-depth background about Louis C. Tiffany and his companies. Examples of Tiffany's most iconic lamps—Wisteria and Dragonfly—are on view, along with some of the more unusual lamps produced in limited number, such as the Pond Lily globe and Peacock hanging shade.

Upcoming events for the Club include a number of talks on the topics of Pitkin glass, early lanterns, early pressed glass (a special presentation

by Ian Simmonds), and Carnival Glass. A traditional holiday potluck luncheon and party in December includes a variety of activities such as show-'n-tell of members' favorite glass, a silent auction, and more. The 41st Annual Westchester Glass Club Collectors Show & Sale will be held on April 8–9, 2017, in Old Greenwich, CT. After celebrating the very successful 40th anniversary show with free admission, we will once again offer free admission to buyers. The show will also feature a very interesting talk by Phil Culhane on the little-known subject of Persian glass. Put April 8–9, 2017 on your calendar and visit the “Westchester Glass Club” Facebook group or visit www.westchesterglassclub.com for more information.

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Fall has arrived here at the South Jersey shore. The hottest summer on record is finally over and the temperatures have cooled. The threat of Hurricane Hermine thankfully never materialized. Quite frankly, I am happy to see the summer go. We all look forward to Fall as a time when Chapters resume meetings after the summer break and we see our good friends again.

Fall is also a time for glass seminars and gatherings. The Corning Museum of Glass has its 55th Annual Seminar focused on the glass marine invertebrates of Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka.

The Glass Gatherings of the West Virginia Museum of American Glass is on the road again, and this year it is in Cleveland, Ohio. Both venues are a chance for getting to know other collectors and learning more about the subject we all love.

I had a very good conversation with Jerry Greenblatt of the James Rose Chapter. We talked about his group, which over the years has lost membership due to members moving or passing away. Jerry would like to find a way to have more contact with members across the country who also share his interests in the types of glass he collects. One suggestion is to have a place on the new Web site for

members to connect with each other. I personally would like to have more conversations with other Chapter members and to get to know them, too. The new Web site is slowly moving forward. There is a plan for it to have a membership section where this interaction with other members and Chapters can happen.

Loreen Ryan and Karen Petraglia continue to work hard on our 2017 Seminar in West Virginia. Remember to save the dates of May 11 to 13, 2017.

Have a wonderful Fall!

— Gay LeCleire Taylor
President

Tiffany Glass: Painting with Color and Light

From December 3, 2016, through February 26, 2017, The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum will present “Tiffany Glass: Painting with Color and Light.” Tiffany Studio’s leaded-glass lampshades and windows, designed with colorfully luminous opalescent glass, are some of the most striking, iconic decorative objects.

The exhibition, organized by The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass, Queens, NY, highlights the contributions of Tiffany Studios chemist Arthur J. Nash and leading designers Agnes Northrop, Frederick Wilson, and Clara Driscoll. It also includes an educational model illustrating how leaded-glass shades are fabricated, along with examples of Tiffany lamp forgeries to explore issues such as authenticity and connoisseurship.



Salve Regina window for chapel at Stony Wold Sanatorium, Lake Kusahaqua, New York. Tiffany Studios, New York, designed by Frederick Wilson, after 1910.

As a painter, Louis C. Tiffany—son of Charles Lewis Tiffany, founder of luxury retailer Tiffany & Company—was captivated by the interplay of color

and light. The use of opalescent glass and innovative techniques, marking a departure from the centuries-old stained glass tradition of painting on the surface of glass, achieved impressionistic effects in Tiffany’s signature leaded-glass work.

Glass, selected for its color, opacity, and texture, was assembled to create translucent flowers, gossamer dragonfly wings, landscapes, and domes of geometric patterns. The vast and varied glass palette and intricate designs became hallmarks of Tiffany Studios.

The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum
700 North 12th Street
Wausau, WI 54403
(715) 845-7010
www.lywam.org

Editor's note: An illustration in the article “New Works by Andrew Miller,” in the printed version of the Summer issue of *Glass Shards* was incorrectly identified. It should read: *Mute* by Andrew Miller. Photograph by Donald Nisbet. Our apologies.



Fostoria Glass Society Hopes to Purchase Original Molds

The Fostoria Glass Society of America is hoping to add 972 original cast iron Fostoria molds to its Moundsville Museum. However, before this can take place, the FGSA Board of Directors will need to raise \$40,000 to purchase the molds.

The FGSA learned in June that the Fenton Glass Co., located in Williamstown, had Fostoria molds which were going to be sold. Immediately, FGSA president Jim Davis contacted George Fenton, owner of Fenton Glass Co., and during their conversation a meeting was set up to discuss the possible purchase. Davis and three other Board members met with Fenton who agreed to sell the molds for the \$40,000 figure.

A number of years ago the FGSA Board of Directors learned that the Fenton company possessed many of

the original Fostoria molds and, at that time, attempted to purchase some of them. However, the firm was not ready to part with them.

In 1983, the molds became the property of Lancaster Colony with the purchase of Fostoria. After three years of operation, the facility closed after 99 years of glassmaking. Over the years, many of the molds were sold to various glass companies and are being used to make glass that imitates Fostoria. The Board's concern is that if the FGSA does not purchase these molds, they may end up out of the state, or even the country.

To learn more about the efforts to purchase the 972 molds or to donate, please call (304) 845-9188 or (304) 639-0495. Or, write to the Fostoria Glass Society of America, P.O. Box 826, Moundsville, WV, 26041.

Mount Pleasant Glass Museum Receives Rare Mustard Jar

The Mount Pleasant Glass Museum just received what its director is comparing to a "Holy Grail"—a rare decorative glass jar from the former L.E. Smith Glass Co., produced when the factory's inventory included mustards.

In the early part of the 20th century, the condiment was sold in glass tumblers and sealed teacups produced at the plant. Lewis Smith, a chef looking to produce glass jars for his mustard recipe, started the business but left after a short time. The company kept his name.

Barry Bernas a Latrobe native and avid glassware collector, donated this rare mustard jar produced at L.E.

Smith Glass. "This is like a Holy Grail find," museum Director Amy Philips-Haller said. "It was a piece we really wanted at the museum, and we are so thankful to him for donating it." The mustard jar was presented to the museum on August 11.



Rare mustard jar by L.E. Smith Co.

Taken from "Latrobe Native Gives Rare Decorative Mustard Jar to Mt. Pleasant Glass Museum" by Mary Pickels, August 5, 2016 (<http://triblive.com/news/westmoreland/10907590-74/glass-museum-jar>, accessed Sept. 24, 2016).

2016 Glass Gathering

Join the Museum of American Glass in West Virginia for the 25th Annual Glass Gathering, October 21 and 22, 2016.

Early arrivals can meet Thursday evening, from 6 to 8 p.m., at St. Mary's Crystal Chalet, the Gathering's location. Pick up your packets early and stay for a reception. Snacks and beverages will be served. As a special treat, you can choose a lovely goblet that will be yours to keep!

We meet back at the Chalet on Friday morning to embark on an all-day trolley tour. We will visit some of Cleveland's wonderful glass-related sites, including a museum or two.

Friday dinner is on your own. Afterwards, we meet again Friday evening at the Chalet for refreshments and perhaps a movie, and some chatting about the days events.

Saturday morning, coffee and pastries will be served at the Chalet, followed by a host of presenters, including Paul Kirk, speaking about his new book on Bryce Higbee glass, Cal Hackeman, sharing his love of Stretch Glass, and Zak McCamy, displaying his orange glassware and early Halloween collectibles.

The annual banquet begins at 5 p.m., followed by the "not-so-silent" silent auction. Proceeds benefit both the museum and the Western Reserve American Glass Club, our hosts this year. We will also have a raffle for a set of 1930s glassware. Tickets will be sold during the Gathering and the winner will be chosen Saturday evening.

Please contact Zak at (440) 799-1618 or Helen at (702) 987-4716 for a list of hotels or more information.

Museum of American Glass
in West Virginia
230 Main Ave.
Weston, WV 26452
304.269.5006
www.magwv.com

Glass Calendar

(Confirmation of dates and schedules advised. More information is available on our Web page at www.glassclub.org)

October 15–16, 2016

THE CORNING MUSEUM
OF GLASS
*55th Annual Seminar on Glass:
The Blaschkas' Glass Marine Invertebrates: Diving into Context*
One Museum Way
Corning, NY 14830
(800) 732.6845
www.cmog.org

The 55th annual Seminar at The Corning Museum of Glass will focus on the work of Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka and the current exhibition, “Fragile Legacy: The Marine Invertebrate Glass Models of Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka,” which is on view through January 8, 2017.



Glass model of a squid, *Ommastrephes sagittatus*. Photo: Cornell University.

From 1863 to 1890, the Blaschkas crafted glass models of marine invertebrates in their studio in Dresden, and shipped them to museums and universities for study and display. Cornell University acquired 570 Blaschka models as a teaching collection in 1885 and, today, scholars continue to learn from these intricate models while conservators at The Corning Museum of Glass work to preserve the models and marine conservationists work to protect and preserve the sea creatures they represent.

* * * *

Through December 18, 2016
MUSEUM OF GLASS
Visiting Artist Residency Demonstrations
1801 Dock St.
Tacoma, WA 98402
(866) 468-7386
www.museumofglass.org



Azure Filigree Cloud by Nancy Callan. Photo by Russell Johnson.

Visitors will have the opportunity to see renowned Studio Glass artists and emerging artists work in the Hot Shop. The fall and winter residency line-up includes artists sponsored through the Museum's annual “Fuel Their Fire” residency auction—Simone Fezer, David Huchthausen, Beth Lipman, Kait Rhodes, Granite Calimpong, Oben Abright, and Nancy Callan. All five-day Residencies are streamed live online and include a “Conversation with the Artist” lecture on Sundays in the Hot Shop.

* * * *

Through December 31, 2016
WHEATON ARTS
AND CULTURAL CENTER
From the Ground Up: Archaeology, Artisans, Everyday Life
1501 Glasstown Rd.
Millville, NJ 08332
(856) 825-6800
www.wheatonarts.org

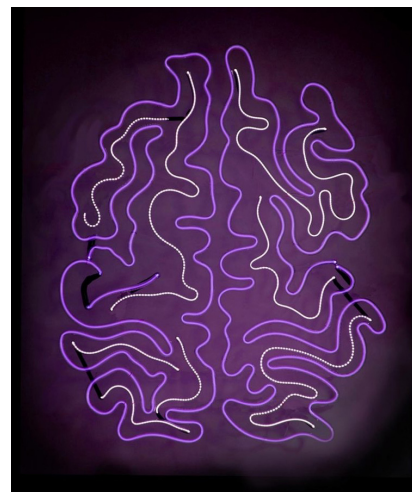
This exhibition features over 600 of about 1,000,000 artifacts recovered by AECOM Cultural Resources during

archaeological excavations along Interstate 95 in Philadelphia. Co-curated by historic glass specialist Mary Cheek Mills and senior research analyst Rebecca White, “From the Ground Up” highlights the archaeological excavations at Dyottville Glass Works and the history of the glass industry that once thrived in the Kensington–Fish-town neighborhood north of Center City.

* * * *

Through February 19, 2017
BERGSTROM-MAHLER
MUSEUM OF GLASS
Bending Brilliance: Neon and Plasma Sculpture
165 N. Park Ave.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 751-4658
www.bmmglass.com

Works by artists who use light as their medium are showcased. Since the early 20th century, neon lights have been used in advertising signage. Since then, the art form has evolved to include works that use light, dark, and shadow to transform an environment, create a composition, or extend the familiar genre of signage to playful use of puns and thought-provoking themes.



Abbey Normal by Jacob Fishman.

Corning Welcomes New Curator

The Corning Museum of Glass is happy to announce the appointment of Dr. Christopher (Kit) Maxwell as Curator of European Glass. A curator and scholar, Maxwell has a varied background in the academic, museum, and gallery world. In his new role, Maxwell will be responsible for the acquisition, exhibition, cataloguing, and research of the Museum's European glass collection, with works dating from the early medieval period until about 1900. Maxwell will join the Museum in October.

Maxwell graduated with a BA in History of Art from the University of Cambridge in 2001, and took a post at the Royal Collection first in the Royal Library and Print Room at Windsor Castle, followed by the Publications Office at St James's Palace. In 2005, he completed his master's degree in Decorative Arts and Historic



Dr. Christopher (Kit) Maxwell.

Interiors at the University of London, and became an assistant curator in the ceramics and glass section at the Victoria & Albert Museum. For five

years, he worked on the reinterpretation of the museum's ceramics galleries, developing a specialty in 18th-century European ceramics, with a particular focus on French porcelain.

In 2010, Maxwell left the V&A to pursue his PhD at the University of Glasgow, which he completed in 2014. Maxwell rejoined the Royal Collection as project curator during this time, and since 2013, has been working with Travis Hansson Fine Art, a private art dealer based in Beverly Hills.

The Corning Museum of Glass
One Museum Way
Corning, NY 14830
(607) 937-5371

www.cmog.org

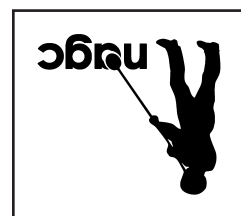
First Class

DECEMBER 1, 2016
DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE'S

www.glassclub.org
Visit NAGC web page:

1st Class Presort
U.S. Postage
PAID
Binghamton NY
Permit 197

ATTENTION READERS!
The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be
December 1, 2016. Submit by mail to:
Alice Saville, Editor, *Glass Shards*
30 Honeyuckle Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045
or reach us by e-mail at: planetahicesaville@gmail.com



The National American
Glass Club
P.O. Box 24
Elkland, PA 16920