

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Fall 2005

Fenton Art Glass Celebrates 100 Years

Fenton Art Glass of Williamstown, WV, is celebrating 100 years as America's premiere producer of fine handcrafted, colored glass.

The Museum of American Glass at Wheaton Village will celebrate this milestone event with a special exhibition, "The Best of Fenton: 100th Anniversary Exhibit," August 6 through November 13.

The exhibition features over 80 pieces of Fenton Art Glass from the museum's permanent collection and pieces on loan from private collectors. It will be divided into 12 categories: iridescent, opaque colors, Art Glass, crests, opalescent, heat sensitive, Robert Barber Collection, hobnail, decorated, lamps and special orders.

George Fenton, Fenton Art Glass Company president states, "Celebrating our 100th anniversary has given us a renewed appreciation for

the spirit of innovation that has always been a hallmark of Fenton Art Glass. Each piece of glass we make has a story to tell. Each

represents the combined efforts of designers and skilled artisans, and each reflect the pride we take in our enterprise."

For more information about the exhibition and Wheaton Village, call (800) 998-4552 or visit www.wheatonvillage.org. There will also be a Fenton Family Signing Event, November 5, with Lynn Fenton Erb.



Peach Blow with Black Crest Vase, c. 1953
Vasa Murrhina Vase, c. 1983
Hanging Heart Vase, c. 1925



Burmese Decorated Bell, c. 1986
Plum Stretch Decorated Basket (QVC), c. 1996

Frank M Fenton

December 1, 1915 - August 9, 2005
Historian, Past President, Past Chairman of the Board.

A time of joy and celebration for the Fenton family has turned into sadness with the death of family patriarch Frank M. Fenton.



Fenton, 89, had been in ill health recently but his death, coming as it did in the midst of Fenton Art Glass' 100th anniversary celebration, was a sad event for the family and the community. However, we hope everyone feeling the pain of Fenton's death will remember his business sense and leadership during the previous four decades that helped make this celebration possible. During the nearly 40 years he and his brother Bill headed the company, Fenton Art Glass grew from a small business to a name known worldwide for its quality and innovative products.

"He was a great leader and certainly provided a lot of support and advice," his son and current CEO and president of Fenton Art Glass George Fenton said. "He was personally very caring and, in business, very wise and very astute."

President's letter

Dear Friends,

As the next calendar quarter becomes history, four years will have slipped by since my son, David, home for the holiday on Navy leave declared, "Dad, it's time for you to become computer savvy." With a Gateway soon up and running and tutorials following, resource centers were now close at hand, in fact, at the "click of the mouse." Our NAGC web site soon became an old friend.

With a web address of www.glassclub.net, Web Master Francis Allen offers "glass links" to web sites dedicated to a multiplicity of glass interests. The sites include libraries, museums, glass factories and makers, glass schools, workshops and events among other areas of interest to the collector and the researcher.

The library links include NAGC Library, which is shelved at the Boston Athenaeum Library in Boston, Rakow Library (via the link to Corning Museum), and Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. as well as other depositories of glass history.

Over the months as I continued to explore resource sites, I discovered that the catalog for the Rakow Library is included on its web site at www.cmog.org. The revelation got even better as I noted that the Rakow Library, which strives for an inclusive collection of all that is written about glass, offers interlibrary loan.

Enjoy and seize to good advantage the enhanced accessibility of glass history.

til later,

Larry Steiner, President

2006 NAGC Seminar - Chicago

The grand city of Chicago with its beautiful lakefront, spectacular architecture, scores of museums and art galleries will be the site for NAGC's next Glass Seminar, May 11-13, 2006.

Plans are underway for visits and optional trips to some of the area's best historic landmarks, museums, and glass studios, including; the Smith Museum of Stained Glass, located

provide informative, visual presentations covering a range of time periods and topics on glass that will be of interest to everyone.

The presentations and the seminar banquet will be held at a very attractive hotel. With a wonderful location just off North Michigan Avenue's "Magnificent Mile", the hotel is within walking distance of the historic



Marshall Field Atrium Ceiling
by Louis Comfort Tiffany

at the Navy Pier, which has one of the grandest public collections of stained glass in the country of over 150 windows on display; the Chicago Cultural Center's with grandly ornamented Tiffany designed mosaic glass and stained glass domes; the world's largest Tiffany Favrile glass ceiling located in retailing giant's Marshall Field & Co.; Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio and a National Historic Landmark designed by Wright, the Unity Temple, both located in Oak Park.

Five distinguished speakers, always the highlight of the seminar, will

Water Tower, the Hancock Observatory, The Museum of Contemporary Art and many fine shops and restaurants.

More details on the seminar's tours, speakers and activities will be available over the coming months. Please remember to mark your calendars and plan on joining us in May for our annual National Glass Seminar.

The Seminar Committee:
Loreen Ryan: (914) 337-554,
loreen_ryan@msn.com
Micki Doros: (973) 379-3134,
jayandmicki@verizon.net
Karen Petraglia (603) 472-5998,
kp0828@aol.com

Portland Museum of Art New Glass Installation

The Portland Museum of Art in Portland, ME is proud to present a newly refurbished glass and ceramics exhibition. Dazzling color, elegant forms, and innovative techniques characterize the more than 300 works, which range from early European pieces to Tiffany to the Art Glass of Dale Chihuly. New interpretive text and identification labels are included within the cases for the first time. Guest curator Arlene Palmer Schwind responded in an innovative way

to the challenge of presenting and interpreting the Museum's glass and ceramics collection. Focusing on their strengths, she chose a thematic sampling of decorative and functional objects made for consumption in the US and Europe, from a 16th century Venetian wine glass to Dale Chihuly's *Rose Mist Seaform*.

Visit the website for more detail www.portlandmuseum.org or call (207) 775-6148.

Glass Calendar

(Confirmation of dates and schedules advised.)

More information is available on our web page at www.glassclub.org

Through October 30, 2005

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS,
One Museum Way, Corning, NY
(800) 732-6845. *"The Tradition of the
Avant-Garde: Bohemian Glass
of the 19th and 20th Centuries"*
www.cmog.org

Through December 31, 2005

SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM
129 Main St., Sandwich, MA (508)
888-0251 *"Visions of our Galaxy
Through the Glass of Josh Simpson,"*
an exhibit of the work of this world
famous glass artist. Along with
terrestrial and aquatic domains, the
artist also depicts the cosmos in his
award winning glass art.

www.sandwichglassmuseum.org

September 17 & 18, 2005

SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM
129 Main St., Sandwich, MA
(508) 888-0251. 18th Annual Show
& Sale held at the Cape Cod Com-
munity College, Rte. 132, West Barn-
stable, MA. 45 nationally prominent
glass dealers will offer antique &
collectible glassware from the 18th-
20th centuries.

www.sandwichglassmuseum.org

September 21 - 25, 2005

GREEN VALLEY AUCTIONS
11th Annual Fall Auction of Early
American Glass and Lighting, 2259
Green Valley Lane, Mt. Crawford,
VA 22841. [www.greenvalleyauc-
tions.com](http://www.greenvalleyauc-
tions.com) (540) 434-4260. Offered
are selections from the collection of
Sylvia Applebee and Ken Lyon, the
collection of the late T. C. and Joyce
Andrews of Gainesville, FL includ-
ing 1600+ pieces of Vaseline Glass,
of the Edward Cooke collection of
1000+ EAPG and Victorian spoon
holders and much more.

A full color catalog is available.

October 7, 2005

PITTSBURGH GLASS CENTER
5472 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA
15206 (412) 365-2145 *"Well Hung:
Chandeliers Revealed"* Opening of
the first national collaborative exhibi-
tion will illuminate the chandelier
and elevate it from luminary to luxu-
ry. A major exhibition for Pittsburgh,
five nationally renowned glass artists
will each spend two weeks creating
their chandelier in the state of the art
studios.

www.pittsburghglasscenter.org

September 28 - October 1, 2005

CORNING MUSEUM, One Museum
Way, Corning, NY. The 44th Annual
Seminar on Glass is inspired by the
Museum's three special exhibitions
on Czech glass in 2005 - the larg-
est presentation ever mounted in the
United States of glass and design from
the region now known as the Czech
Republic - this year's program will
focus on Czech and Bohemian glass
from the early 19th century to the pres-
ent day, with an emphasis on mid-20th
century design. www.cmog.org

October 5, 2005

MORSE MUSEUM 445 North Park
Ave., Winter Park, FL (407) 645-5311
*"Windows and Wonders: Tiffany from
the Morse Vaults"*. A large installation
of stunning works that have not been
on view recently or never before in
these galleries. [www.morsemuseum.
org](http://www.morsemuseum.
org)

October 14 - 15, 2005

WV MUSEUM OF AMERICAN
GLASS Annual Glass Gathering at
Halton Hills, Ontario, Canada. This
location is just 45 minutes from
Ontario's premiere winery region. The
agenda includes tours of hot glass stu-
dios, presentations on the products of
the Nova Scotia Glass Co, the Marquis
of Lorne pattern, and much more!
[http://members.aol.com/
wvmuseumofglass](http://members.aol.com/
wvmuseumofglass)

October 22 - January 15, 2006

MUSEUM OF GLASS, 1801 East
Dock St., Tacoma, WA 98402-3217
or (866) 4-MUSEUM. *"Natural Re-
flections"* an exhibit of artist Debora
Moore's most recent works which are
exotic studies of orchids, bamboo,
moss, leaves, and tree forms. She
works hot glass in a very organic and
fluid fashion, giving the botanical
sculptures a sense of naturalness while
retaining an expressive, interpretive
quality. www.museumofglass.org

October 27 - 29, 2005

MT. WASHINGTON ART GLASS
SOCIETY will hold their 14th annual
glass conference in New Bedford,
MA. Speakers include: Kirk Nelson,
New Bedford Museum of Glass; Jane
Spillman and Dr. Joseph Heyman, new
revelations on Pairpoint Glass; Nancy
Phillips, the work of her great grand-
father Frank Guba; Louis St. Aubin,
Burmese on its 120th anniversary;

and Frank Maloney and George
Fogg, 20th century glass. Mary Jean
Blasdale will conduct a tour of the
New Bedford Whaling Museum's
extensive and rare collection of Mt.
Washington glass. Contact
Edie Lawson (401) 254-0282
or Carmen Freeman (941) 966-
4406; carmenfreeman@verizon.net.
All are encouraged to attend.

October 29 & 30, 2005

THE FOSTORIA GLASS SOCIETY
of North Texas presents *"The Age of
Elegance"* Elegant and Depression
Glass Show and Sale at the Waxa-
hachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Lane
Waxahachie, TX (972) 938-3434.
For information contact (817) 545-
5856 Ralph (r.rider@sbcglobal.net)

November 17 - April 2, 2006

CORNING MUSEUM, One Mu-
seum Way, Corning, NY. *"Decades in
Glass: The '60s"* focuses on art and
design in glass made in the United
States and Europe. The exhibition
presents the revolutionary develop-
ments in glass in the United States.
During the 1960s, American art glass
was dramatically transformed. The
movement of glassmaking from the
factory to the artist studio, and new
perspectives on the use of glass for
art, resulted in a widespread burst of
artistic activity that is known as the
Studio Glass movement.

www.cmog.org

January 15, 2006

LITTLE RHODY BOTTLE SHOW
& SALE Annual Antique Bottle
Show, K of C Hall, 304 Highland
Ave., So. Attleboro, MA. Con-
tact Julie Camara for information
narcovich@aol.com

October 7 - 8, 2005

VASELINE GLASS COLLECTORS
7th Annual Convention to be held at
Embassy Suites Hotel Pittsburgh
(800) 362-2779. There will be a glass
auction, a commemorative Vaseline
Glass Paperweight available, and
interesting speakers.
www.vaselineglass.org
Vaseline Glass Collectors, Inc.,
14560 Schleisman Rd., Corona, CA
92880 [vaselineglass@vaselineglass.
org](mailto:vaselineglass@vaselineglass.
org)

Marble Meet

The 26th Northeast Marble Meet will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 8 & 9, 2005 at the Radisson Hotel in Marlborough, MA. Rare Egyptian marbles dated 2,300 years old by the Smithsonian will be on display and it will be an opportunity to discover new treasures and knowledge for both the advanced and novice collector alike. A varied selection of marbles, marble games, paper goods will be available for show, swap and sale.

Collectors arriving early will have a



chance to renew old friendships, view the many room displays and get an early start on acquiring additions to their collections. Among the activities on Saturday will be informal. Auction featuring many fine examples of handmade, machine made & contemporary marbles beginning at 1:30 pm.

Saturday evening - "room hopping" to visit and buy/sell/trade. On Sunday, a display and sale of marbles, marble memorabilia, marble toys and games etc. will take place from 9 am until 3 pm in the Massachusetts Ballroom. Admission is \$2.00 - children under 12 will be admitted free.

The Radisson Hotel is located between Boston and Worcester with easy access by car or plane and offers excellent facilities. The New England fall foliage season is an added attraction to what is sure to be a fun weekend!

For hotel accommodations contact The Radisson Hotel: (508) 480-0015. Remember to ask for the special "Northeast Marble Meet" rate.

Contact Bert Cohen 169 Marlborough St., Boston, MA 02116 (617) 247-4754; email: marblebert@aol.com Or visit the web site at www.marblebert.com

Contemporary Native American Art

"*Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation 2: Contemporary Native North American Art from the West, Northwest & Pacific*" on view from September 22 through January 22, 2006 at The Museum of Arts & Design, 40 West 53rd Street, between Fifth Avenue and Avenue of the Americas, NYC. (212) 956-3535 www.madmuseum.org

Art Without Reservation, 2 is the second in a series of groundbreaking exhibitions that explores work by a selected group of Native artists who are challenging preconceived notions of art and culture that heretofore defined Native American art primarily as anthropological artifacts.

Similar to *Changing Hands, Part 1*, which explored similar themes by artists from the Southwest, CH2 will have a regional basis but will explore a far greater terrain that encompasses the regions lying west of the Mississippi River and includes the Prairie, Plains, Plateau and the Pacific regions of Hawaii, Canada and Alaska. Accompanied by a fully illustrated catalog and related educational programming, the exhibition will establish a new dialogue that embraces not only the past, but more importantly, the present and future of Native Art.

Preston Singletary is one of the first Native artists to explore glass as a



new and preferred medium. His glass artistry combines two traditions: the fluid and graphic formline imagery of his Alaskan tribal ancestry and the more contemporary glassblowing traditions of well-known Seattle artists such as Dale Chihuly and William Morris. The artist comments on his work: "I'm hoping to bring Tlingit designs into the future. Glass is so permanent. It will never rot away like a piece of wood."

Glassmaking Exhibit

¡Supercool! Hot Glass and Cold Work and Glassmaking Tools, Technologies, & Processes



Glassmaking at the Pit of Memnon c. 1410

Courtesy of the British Library

¡Supercool! is the exhibit now on display at the MSC Forsyth Center Galleries. The Galleries are excited to host this new show to educate and inform the community on the origins and current technology of glassmaking.

The focus includes the tools, processes and examples of general glass, cut glass, paperweights and cameo glass. To accompany the exhibit, a repeating slideshow will showcase other examples and tools used in this craft.

MSC Forsyth Center Galleries, Texas A&M University, 1237 TAMU College Station, TX 77843 (979) 845-9251

<http://forsyth.tamu.edu>

Fall and Winter Courses at The Corning Studio

Discover glass and its many forms at The Studio of The Corning Museum of Glass. Whether you have never worked with glass or you are an experienced artist with new ideas for your work, The Studio has much to offer, including state-of-the-art facilities, experienced instructors and a community of multi-national artists intensely focused on creativity and learning.

The ten-week courses begin the week of October 2 and end the week of December 4. Classes meet once each week for three hours.

Some of the courses are *Beginning Glassblowing* where no glassworking experience is necessary; *Continuing Glassblowing* where some glassblowing experience is necessary; *Flameworking* where students will learn many techniques using both soft and hard glass to create beads, sculpture, and other glass designs.

www.cmog.org

1960s Studio Art Glass

Many associate the 1960s with a time of radical change in politics, civil rights and personal expression. American glass was also dramatically affected during this era, with the movement of artistic glassmaking from the factory to the artist's studio and the development of new perspectives on the use of glass for art.

"Decades in Glass: The '60s," opening November 17 at The Corning Museum of Glass, will explore the widespread burst of artistic activity that marked the early years of the American Studio Glass movement in the context of European and American design. The exhibition runs through April 2, 2006.

The catalyst for the development of studio glass in the United States was Harvey K. Littleton, a teaching ceramist at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Informed by his own background in the material, Littleton

started experimenting with hot glass in his studio in 1958. He eventually realized that his desire to develop studio glassblowing in America could become a reality after encountering the small, historic glasshouses of Italy and experiencing limited success with his own glassblowing experiments.

Littleton joined forces with the Toledo Museum of Art, the site of the "birth" of the American Studio Glass movement during two historic glassblowing workshops in March and June of 1962. He worked with glass research scientist Dominick Labino, who successfully devised a small, inexpensive furnace in which glass could be melted and worked.



Hand, blown glass.
by Erwin Eisch 1968

The 14th Annual Mt. Washington Art Glass Society Conference

The 14th annual Mt. Washington Art Glass Society (MWAGS) conference is scheduled for Thursday, October 27 through Sunday, October 29, 2005 in New Bedford, MA in cooperation with The New Bedford Whaling Museum. Speakers will include Louis O. St. Aubin, Kirk Nelson, Jane S. Spillman, Nancy Phillips, Dr. Joseph Heyman, Frank Maloney and George Fogg. This conference is dedicated to the memory of Kenneth M. Wilson.

The registration fee is \$210 for MWAGS members and \$230 for non-members. Checks should be sent to Cheryl Kelley at P.O. Box 849, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29597. For further information contact Carmen Freeman at (941) 966-4406 or Louis O. St. Aubin at (508) 993-4944.

Mt. Washington & Pairpoint Glass by Kenneth M. Wilson

Copies of Kenneth M. Wilson's long-awaited Volume One of *Mt. Washington & Pairpoint Glass* are now available from the Mount Washington Art Glass Society (MWAGS) at the special price of \$60.00 per copy plus \$10.00 for shipping and handling. List price for the book is \$95.00. This book represents the culmination of many years of scholarly research by Mr. Wilson and provides a comprehensive history of the firm, as well as descriptions and numerous illustrations of the wares it produced, catalog pages, advertisements and related materials, most of which are being published for the first time. Mr. Wilson died on March 29, 2005, after reviewing the page proofs for volume one. With the assistance of The Corning Museum of Glass, to which Mr. Wilson's papers have been donated, plans are under way to complete Volume Two, incorporating Mr. Wilson's research materials and illustrations.

You may send your order and check, payable to MWAGS, to Cheryl Kelley at P.O. Box 849, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29597 or to Carmen Freeman at 1744 Island Way, Osprey, FL 34229.

Green Valley Auctions

At Green Valley Auctions, 2259 Green Valley Ln., Mt. Crawford, VA the next glass auction is coming up on September 22 through 25. (540) 434-4260. www.greenvalleyauctions.com



Kerosene Table Lamps

The auction will feature selections from the following: the collection of Sylvia Applebee Lyon and Ken Lyon of Fisher's Hill, VA; the collection of the late T. C. and Joyce Andrews of Gainesville, FL including 1600+ pieces of Vaseline Glass, the Jo & Bob Sanford collection of Victorian Novelty glass including many examples illustrated in their book "Victorian Glass Novelties"; selections from the collection of Bette & the late Chub Wicker of Millbrook, NY; The Edward Cooke collection of 1000+ EAPG and Victorian spoon holders; property from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Smith, proceeds to support collections, acquisitions and exhibitions at Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA; selections from the collection of Katie and Ed Hensley, Richmond, VA and more.

Please contact them for a catalog.



Vaseline Glass from the Andrews Collection

Research & Publication News

Fostoria Glass: Master Etching

"*Fostoria Glass: The Elegant and Master-Etchings*" by Juanita L. Williams. 2005 Schiffer Books, 4880 Lower Valley Road, Atglen, PA 19310.

(610) 593-1777 or email info@schifferbooks.com. \$39.99. 235 pages with price guide, Bibliography and Glossary.

Ms Williams' second book on Fostoria (the first concentrated on the Scarce and unique forms) is another job well done.

The quality of Elegant Glass is only recently being noticed by the general public and these books are helping beginning collectors see the excitement in this type of glassware.

Fostoria lead the way as the first American Glass Factory to begin advertising nationally in 1924 and to seek out the Bridal Registry as an important part of obtaining national exposure.

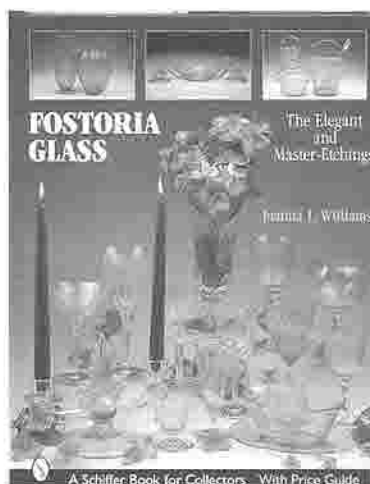
The book details most remarkably the variety of the etching used on their sets. You can feel confident that you will find the pattern name and which blanks it was used on.

They high-

colors and innovative forms.

The illustrations used includes full color of dozens and dozens of beautiful, rare Fostoria glass, plus catalog reprints, old advertisements showing what type of contemporary setting these pieces may have found themselves in. There is even a whole section devoted entirely to the etched designs in clear easy to interpret photographs.

This is a very easy and valuable book to use in research. Also a fun book to breeze through. Another must have for 20th century glass collectors.



light the workers as artisans and celebrate their skill. This glass was really the finest available to the general consumer and still is quite valued today. The designs ranged from whimsical, to classic to Modern. And all in gorgeous

DECEMBER 1, 2005
DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE'S

<http://www.glassclub.org>
visit NAGC web page:

First Class

3
3

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ATTENTION READERS!
The next deadline for the Glass Shards will be
December 1, 2005. Submit by mail to:
Alice Walsh, Editor, Glass Shards, 11 Bentwood Street,
Foxborough, MA 02035
or reach us through email at: aswalsh@comcast.net



The National
American Glass Club
Box 489
Millburn, NJ 07041