

September 11, 2001
September 11, 2011



Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Fall 2011

2011 Mega-Glass Convention

Those members fortunate enough to attend the 27th Annual NAGC Seminar in Overland Park, KS held in conjunction with the 2011 Mega-Glass Convention

were all highly complimentary in their comments about this "first-time ever" event. The extensive planning by the organizers and the goodwill and common interests of

the attendees prevailed to create an experience enjoyed by everyone.

Thursday morning there was a tour of the Kansas City area, including stops at the Steamboat Arabia Museum and the Three Trails Museum in Independence, MO. This was an excellent tour, and members with good memories may recall the article written by past-President Larry Steiner in the Autumn 2005 *Glass Club Bulletin* (Number 202) describing the sinking of this steamboat in 1856 and the salvaging of its contents from a farmer's cornfield in 1988.

The convention opened Thursday evening with a Rick Pence Auction of a diverse selection of glass with a portion of the auction proceeds being shared with the convention sponsors. On Friday morning we had lectures by Alina Adams of the Wave Crest Collectors Club and Bill Evans of the National Toothpick Holder Collectors Society. Friday afternoon our editor Jane Shadel Spillman presented the first NAGC Distinguished Member



Recognition Lecture in honor of long-time members Dorothy-Lee Jones and Ken and Sylvia Lyon. Jane's lecture topic was "Mt. Washington and

Pairpoint Glass," and her lecture was jointly sponsored by the 2011 Mega-Glass Convention at their request due to the interest generated by the current Corning exhibit and her recent completion of the work begun by Kenneth M. Wilson with her publication of volume two of *Mt. Washington & Pairpoint Glass*. Friday ended with dinner and a lecture by Kathy Freshwater on "Quilts of the Freedom Trail" and various individual auctions held by participating groups, resulting in a late night for many.

Saturday activities included a glass sales market sponsored by participating organizations, and a farewell banquet followed by an interactive panel discussion of topics of interest to glass collectors lead by Jeff Evans. Special thanks for planning and conducting the 2011 Mega-Glass Convention go to

Jay Rogers, Gloria Dobbs and Courtney Sloan; and to Seminar Liaison Ellen O'Brien and NAGC Treasurer John Kohut. Plans have already been proposed for consideration of a similar event to be held in Corning, NY in 2014.

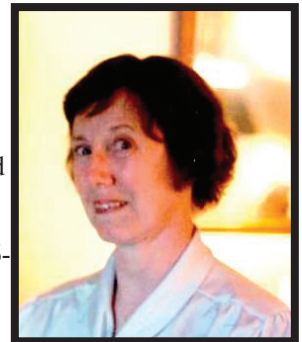


Engraved Pairpoint Vase

In Memoriam of Nancy Sheriff

Nancy became a member of The National American Glass Club in 1975, following the formation of the Bakewell Chapter of which she was co-founder with her husband Bill.

She was an ardent supporter of NAGC programs and served as its Secretary from 1986-1989, Assistant Treasurer 1989-



In Memoriam of Nancy Sheriff

1991 and as Membership Chair 1991- 1996. Between 1996 and 2002, she shared that position with Director Bill Mullen.

Nancy and her husband, produced the first computer-aided club publication Membership Directory. In addition, they collaborated in production of the first index for *The Glass Club Bulletin* which endures to this day as the foundation for that now on the internet. She also co-authored three articles for the *Bulletin*, Nos. 190, 197 and 202 and, for twelve years, with her husband, managed the NAGC's annual Glass Collectors Show at the Silver Spring National Guard Amory.

Nancy's enthusiasm and penchant for organization was brought to bear through her vocation in nursing. She became a Registered Nurse practicing at Sibley Hospital for over fifty years. Nancy's loving care for those around her and her dedication to the National American Glass Club will be long remembered.

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

As many of us involved in the planning expected, our 27th Annual Seminar in July, held in conjunction with the 2011 Mega-Glass Convention in Overland Park, KS, was part of a major glass event. Comments I heard from some of the 350 registered participants were all favorable, and a proposal for a similar gathering in Corning, NY in 2014 is already being considered. Among the many ideas used at the Convention to promote member interest and participation, some of which were new or unfamiliar to NAGC participants, were awards for glass displays by members, a central list of members offering glass for sale from their rooms, a scheduled "Sales Market" during the Convention by dealers and members who wished to participate, a general glass variety auction with a portion of the proceeds distributed to the sponsor groups, and individual auctions by the groups reflecting the types of glass collected by their members.

Special thanks are due to Seminar Liaison Ellen O'Brien and Treasurer John Kohut for handling the myriad of details for NAGC participation; and to Jay Rogers, Gloria Dobbs and Courtney Sloan for organizing and conducting the Convention and for their unfailing good humor in quickly resolving any problems. Due to early distribution of our share of the percentage of the Convention auction proceeds paid to the sponsoring groups, John's preliminary report indicates we have a Seminar profit rather than a deficit for the first time in many years.

Members attending the 2011 Annual Meeting voted unanimously to support a proposal by Jeff and Beverley Evans to host the 28th Annual Seminar in Harrisonburg, VA May 16-19, 2012. Check your *Glass Shards* and *Glass Club Bulletin* for further details. The combination of history, glass and hospitality should make the next seminar one that you won't want to miss.

It is with sincere regret that I note the passing of friend and member Nancy Sheriff. We extend our condolences to her husband Bill and to her family. In addition to their many years of service to NAGC and significant glass research activities, Nancy and Bill did a great deal to promote basic glass education through courses

held in their Maryland home.

The passing of another committed and distinguished NAGC member E. Earl Autenreith, co-author with his wife JoAnne of *The Co-operative Flint Glass Co. of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania 1879-1934* has been memorialized by friends and members of the NAGC Lowell Innes Pittsburgh Chapter with the establishment of a "Study Collection of Pittsburgh District Glass." The collection honoring Earl and JoAnne will be displayed at the Museum of American Glass in Weston, WV. Contributions are being requested for purchase of a showcase and acquisitions.

With all of its trials and tribulations (including the misfortune of earthquake damage to the collections of some of our members in the DC-MD-VA area) 2011 may be better off behind us, but I look forward to seeing some of you in the fall October 20-22 at the 50th Annual Seminar of The Corning Museum of Glass. For all of us, I hope 2012 will be a kinder year.

Ken Depew, President

In Honor of the Autenreiths

"Study Collection of Pittsburgh District Glass" to be established at the Museum of American Glass in Weston, WV. Cash contributions are Tax Deductible. Make checks payable to: NAGC – Pittsburgh Chapter

Note – Autenreith Project Donation

Send checks to: Robert Stakeley, Chapter Treasurer, 8 Mt. Hope Street Pittsburgh, PA 15223

Or please consider a donation of glass for the *Silent Auction*

"The better the glass ~ The better the return" Ship glass to: MAGWV, PO Box 574, Weston WV 26452

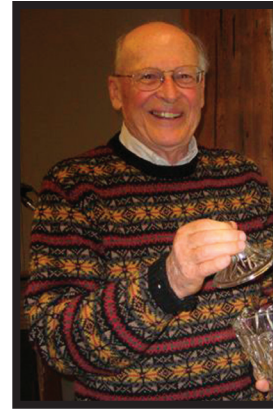
Glass from any era is desired for silent auction.

Please designate glass for "Autenreith Project".

Contact Mary Lamica, Newsletter Coordinator

Lowell Innes Chapter NAGC mlamica@stargate.net for more information.

Earl Autenreith



Earl Autenreith 1929 - 2011

Earl and JoAnne Autenreith have had a strong commitment to Early Pittsburgh Glass and deep ties to the Museum of American Glass in Weston, WV for many many years. The project honoring Earl and JoAnne establishes a "Study Collection of Pittsburgh District Glass" at the Museum of American Glass in Weston.

Organized by friends and members of the Lowell Innes Pittsburgh Chapter of NAGC Friends of Earl and JoAnne Autenreith seek your initial monetary support to secure a showcase at a cost of \$2,600 to develop a "Study Collection of Pittsburgh District Glass" at MAG. Cash Contributions of any denomination will greatly assist this most worthy project. Silent auctions from glass donations are planned to assist in funding the case. Once the case is secured the project will seek dona-

tions to fund acquisitions for the case. The project seeks monetary donations as well as "glass donations from any era" for the silent auctions to help fund the project.

To define the collection we turn to Lowell Innes. In 1949, Lowell Innes defined for the world the term Pittsburgh District Glass and this project seeks to follow the guidelines developed by Innes as honorary curator of an Exhibit at the Carnegie Museum. A catalog was

developed and published for the exhibit that will become part of the Study Collection. *Early Glass of the Pittsburgh District 1797 – 1890* by Lowell Innes, Honorary Curator of Glass, Carnegie Museum.



JoAnne Autenreith

Glass Calendar

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

Through April 2012

MUSEUM OF GLASS (253) 284-4750 1801 Dock Street Tacoma, WA 98402 www.museumofglass.org
Parenthetically Speaking: It's Only a Figure of Speech is a new collection of work by San Francisco-based artist Mildred Howard comprising more than 40 glass punctuation marks, proofreading symbols and musical notes. The work is inspired by *At the End*, a poem by Howard's friend and Peabody Award winner Quincy Troupe. Both the poem and the exhibition reference punctuation as a metaphor for the passage of time.

September 17 - 18, 2011

The Sandwich Glass Museum will be sponsoring the 24th ANNUAL CAPE COD GLASS SHOW AND SALE. (508) 888-0251. It will be held in the St. Theresa's Hall/Skylight Room of the Corpus Christi Church in Sandwich. The address is 324 Quaker Meetinghouse Road, East Sandwich, MA. Nationally prominent glass dealers will offer antique & collectible American & European glassware from the 18th to the 21st centuries. The glassware will include free-blown, blown-molded, and pressed glass as well as Art glass, marbles, Victorian, paperweights, Depression, and other early 20th century glassware. www.sandwichglassmuseum.org

October 1 & 2, 2011

WHEATONARTS 1501 Glasstown Road, Millville, NJ 08332 (800) 998-4552 www.wheatonarts.org
Festival of Fine Craft 2011 Over 125 juried artists from across the country present studio art glass, stained glass, creative jewelry designs, unusual metal sculptures, innovative wearables and accessories, intricate baskets, sculptural and functional clay pieces, woodcarvings and turned vessels, handcrafted furniture, and two-dimensional art and photography. "The Pumpkin Patch": Glass pumpkins of all shapes, sizes and colors will be available for purchase outside the Glass Studio in a special pumpkin patch. Named "2011 Top Ten Fairs and Festivals" by AmericanStyle Magazine

October 20 - 22, 2011

CORNING MUSEUM of GLASS 50th Annual Seminar on Glass.
Art, Elegance, and Ingenuity: Mt. Washington, Pairpoint, and their Contemporaries Join glass collectors, scholars, curators, and students from around the world for a stimulating 50th Annual Seminar on Glass. Enjoy tours with curators, lively networking opportunities, and lectures inspired by the Museum's major 2011 exhibition, *Mt. Washington and Pairpoint: American Glass from the Gilded Age through the Roaring Twenties*. Contact publicprograms@cmog.org for more information. www.cmog.org

October 21 & 22, 2011

THE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN GLASS IN WEST VIRGINIA will hold its annual *Glass Gathering*, a meeting of glass lovers and collectors, at the museum in Weston, West Virginia. Friday is planned as a day of travel and discovery with visits to glass artisans in the area. Saturday is planned with presentations on topics such as Fry Glass, Pioneer Glass, glass insulators and the stained glass church windows of Weston. Details regarding the *Glass Gathering* program, registration and lodging can be found at <http://www.magwv.com/> or call 304-269-5506.

October 29, 2011

JEFFREY S. EVANS & ASSOCIATES 2177 Green Valley Lane Mt. Crawford, VA 22841 (540) 434-3939 Important 18th and 19th Century Lighting and Glass auction. Featuring part one of the outstanding lighting collection of Abigail and the late Edward Meyer of Plantsville, CT; the 30-year collection of Tom Heintzman of Hutchinson, KS; plus selections from the other private and institutional collections. Visit www.jeffreysevans.com for details.

November 18 & 19, 2011

THE CENTRAL PA CHAPTER OF FGSA will have an exhibit of Fostoria Glassware at The Fall Eastern National Antiques Show and Sale, Carlisle, PA Expo Center, 100 K Street, Across from Fairgrounds. <http://home.paonline.com>

November 18 & 19, 2011

EASTERN NATIONAL ANTIQUES SHOW & SALE The Premiere glass show in America and the largest Antiques & Collectibles Show in PA with Art, Cut & Pressed Glass, Crystal, China, Depression Glass, Pattern Glass, Fostoria, Art Pottery, Porcelains and a full line of general antiques. www.easternnationalshows.com

Heckler Columbus Day Bottle Auction

The 12th Annual Columbus Day Weekend Event, October 8, 2011 featuring the Thomas McCandless collection. Events include an Old-Fashioned Tailgate Party, Antique Bottle and Glass Swap - In the Heckler hayfield. Free setup.

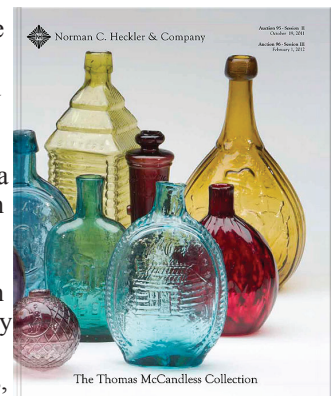
Participate in the live auction 82 McCandless Collection Items. There will be also a preview of the upcoming October 19, 2011 and February 1, 2012 McCandless Absentee Auctions. A timely opportunity to view these items!

Throughout the day shop through our small antique shop housed in our Civil War era auction barn. A live auction of Early Glass, Bottles, Flasks,

Advertising, Pottery, and Glass Production Tools will be an exciting event. There is a printed catalog mailed free. (No cost to members of our mailing list).

www.hecklerauction.com

Norman C. Heckler & Company
79 Bradford Corner Rd., Woodstock Valley, CT 06282
(860) 974-1634



The Thomas McCandless Collection

WV Glass Gathering

The 20th Annual Glass Gathering, a meeting of glass lovers and collectors, is scheduled for October 21 and 22, 2011 at the Museum of American Glass, 230 Main Ave., in downtown Weston, WV. (304) 269-5006 www.magwv.com



The Gathering returns to Weston every other year after alternating with other locations that offer opportunities to study glass. Such opportunities abound in West Virginia as shown in the plans for Friday, October 21, which is touted as a day of travel, discovery and glass fellowship. Attendees will visit glass artisans in Doddridge and Ritchie counties including Eddie Seese in Ellenboro, Davis Marbles in Pennsboro and Boyce Art Glass in West Union. Special features of the day include locally prepared food and digging for glass shards.

Saturday, October 22, is a day of presentations and more glass fellowship. Topics tentatively scheduled include Fry Glass, Pioneer Glass, glass insulators, and the stained glass church windows of Weston. Others topics will be announced as confirmed. There will also be time to focus on some of the favored objects from the MAG collection.

Those who have attended past Gatherings know that Dean Six, Executive Director of the Museum, puts together two jammed-packed days that are both fun and educational. Looks like 2011 will be no exception ending with the ever popular silent auction, which is always more raucous than silent, following the banquet. Auction items are both donated and purchased by attendees with the proceeds benefiting the museum. Space within the Museum limits attendance to 100 people, so mark your calendars now and be sure to watch for information on registration. 304-269-5006

Fuller Craft Museum

Fuller Craft Museum, New England's home for contemporary craft, presents *A Lighter Hand: The Glass Drawings of Michael Janis*, on display through Nov. 6, 2011. The exhibition features the recent work of the virtuosic Washington, DC-based artist, who was recently named a Fulbright Scholar.

Janis' work is the result of a laborious and challenging process. Similar to scrafftio, where a design is scratched through a colored ground revealing another color beneath; to produce the image Janis sifts black glass powder onto sheet glass, scraping away the powder to produce the detail. The image is suspended between layers of sheet glass and fired in a kiln to fuse the constituent pieces together. In this manner any number of images can be combined to produce complex juxtapositions. The result is a collage produced entirely in glass, built from a time-consuming process allowing for an extended contemplation of his subjects.

Building on the legacy of Surrealist artists of the early 20th century, in particular Giorgio de Chirico whose paintings juxtaposed disparate objects in moody and indistinct landscapes, Janis is able to construct a contemplative feeling from the layering of seemingly inanimate objects and ambiguous characters. His images in glass, particularly those examples in a tall and narrow format, also allude to the narrative quality of stained glass. The juxtaposition of text, symbols, and figures seem to imply a hidden message or meaning, but like an ink blot or word association Janis leaves the viewer to provide their own conclusions.

455 Oak St., Brockton, MA 02301
(508) 588-6000 www.fullercraft.org



Michael Janis, *My Other Self*;
Sanctuary, 2010
Kilncast glass, glass powder, steel.
Courtesy of the artist.

Sandwich Glass Museum *Kitchen Dreams*

Sandwich Glass Museum is proud to present *Kitchen Dreams* by artist Ricky Bernstein, on exhibit through October 30, 2011. 129 Main Street, Sandwich, MA 02563 (508) 888-0251 www.sandwichglassmuseum.org

This internationally acclaimed artist and sculptor offers large glass and



aluminum wall reliefs that tell a visual story. Bernstein's oversized cartoon graphics pull us into his vivid imagination, recalling a by-gone time of coffee klatches and domestic dramas. Common stories take on "larger-than-life" proportions and the viewer will feel a sense of nostalgia and recognition. The detailed craftsmanship, color and vibrancy, together with a certain intimacy, make his work decidedly unique.

Dual Nature

Dual Nature: Contemporary Glass and Jewelry on display through January 2012 at Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, 719 S. King St., Seattle, WA 98104

(206)
623-5124
<http://wingluke.org>

This dramatic exhibition



explores the parallel histories of glass and jewelry/metalsmithing which are deeply rooted in the Pacific Northwest. On display are intricate metalwork inspired by botany, organic forms in paper and resin, architectural glass vessels, colorful micro-mosaic brooches, and reflections on cultural roots and identity.

Pittsburgh, City Unseen

The Society for Contemporary Craft (SCC) presents, *City Unseen*, an exhibition of glasswork by artist Scott Goss at SCC's BNY Mellon satellite gallery in downtown Pittsburgh now through October 9, 2011. Pittsburgh Glass Center, 5472 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (412) 365-2145 www.pittsburghglasscenter.org

Working with an innovative process that involves glass painting, fusing and slumping onto copper plate, Goss creates decadent urban landscapes that shape his Glass Panel Series. The artist finds inspiration in the decaying, industrial environment of cities such as Detroit, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

"By using thought-provoking photography I document the architecture in forgotten parts of these cities. Through this body of work, I strive to bring awareness to, and inspire dialogue about, the issues concerning urban decay," explains Goss. Marked by bold, black silhouettes and brightly colored skies, many of his pieces express the heavy stateliness of abandoned factories and urban architectonic forms that have been left to rust and rot. Other works, which use reverse silhouettes with wide, gapping holes in the skylines,



Scott Goss

remind us that nothing is permanent. "Residents and businesses are moving out of city centers and urban neighborhoods to find comfort in surrounding suburbs, southern and western states, and different countries. The buildings and infrastructure that these cities once relied on are also left to age and crumble, leaving behind bricks, broken glass and dust," describes the artist. Work in this exhibition is for sale! For purchase info call 412-261-7003 x26 or kati@contemporarycraft.org

National American Glass Club 2012 Seminar

The National Early American Glass Club is pleased to announce that the 2012 Seminar will be held May 16-19 in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The event will be based in Harrisonburg and include tours of Historic properties, a private collection, visits to area antiques malls, and a day of lectures. It will also coincide with the spring glass auction conducted by Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates in Mt. Crawford.

Wednesday, May 16 will be spent in the historic city of Staunton (founded in 1747), known for its significant architecture packed into five National Historic Districts. Staunton's compact downtown features over one hundred unique shops, art galleries and restaurants. Special NAGC tours will include Trinity Episcopal Church and its twelve Tiffany windows and a studio glass blowing demonstration.

On Thursday, May 17 the group will tour Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Monroe's Ash Lawn-Highland, as well as a tour and lunch at the circa 1784 Michie Tavern. The day will culminate with a reception at the Sites House, the circa 1790 stone home of Beverley and Jeffrey Evans, and a tour of their personal collection of early American glass and Shenandoah Valley decorative arts. The reception is being sponsored by Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates.

Lecture sessions will be held on Friday, May 18 at the Jeffrey Evans auction gallery near Mt. Crawford. The presentations will focus on the material culture of 19th century American glass – exploring its initial production and consumption as well as subsequent collection patterns. Presenters will include Jane Spillman discussing "Glass in the American Home", Jeffrey S. Evans on "The History of Glass Collecting in America", Dean Six on "Trade Catalogues and the Commerce of American Glass", and Art Reed on "Glass Making in 19th Century America". In addition Jeff Evans will conduct a gallery walk and offer insights into the following day's auction.

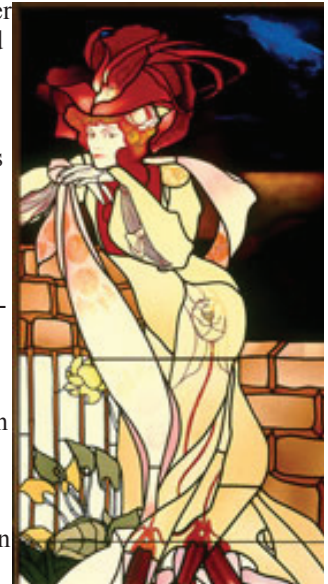
The Seminar will conclude on Saturday, May 19 with the Evans Catalogued Auction of 18th and 19th Century Glass and Lighting featuring an important New England

collection; or attendees can explore the area on their own.

Additional local attractions (within an hour or less) include the American Shakespeare Center, the Museum of American Frontier Culture, the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library, Birthplace and Museum, the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, the Virginia Museum of the Civil War including the 300-acre New Market Battlefield State Historical Park, other area Civil War sites, local vineyards and farmer's markets, and Shenandoah National Park including the scenic Skyline Drive.

Other near-by attractions (within two hours) include the newly renovated and expanded Virginia Museum of Fine Arts which highlights a world class collection of Tiffany glass and Faberge eggs, many other

Richmond area attractions, James Madison's Montpelier, and the museums and monuments of Washington, DC. In addition Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown are less



Georges de Feure (French, 1868 - 1943)
Window ca. 1901 - 1902

than three hours away. The registration fee is \$225 per person and includes May 16 & 17 tour tickets, the opening reception, and much more.

Final details and the registration form will be mailed to members in January. Information will also be posted on the NAGC website.

Hotel reservations should be made (prior to 4/24/2012) directly with the Courtyard Marriott Harrisonburg which (540) 432-3031. A block of rooms has been set aside for the NAGC Seminar at the special rate of \$79 per night (plus taxes) which includes a Continental breakfast. Remember to mention the "National American Glass Club" when you make your reservation. All bus transportation will be provided from the hotel on May 16-18.

Research, Publication & Glass News

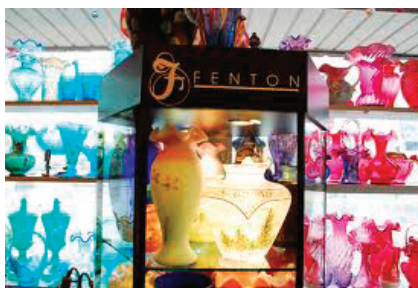
Fenton Art Glass

(Williamstown, WV., July 6, 2011)

The Fenton Art Glass Company announced that it would wind down production of its collectible and giftware glass products. The company has faced financial challenges since its restructuring in 2007, and recent developments combined to force the shutdown of its traditional glassmaking business.

"The market for our pressed and blown glassware has diminished," company President George Fenton said. "We cannot sustain the overhead costs. Our employees have worked hard and efficiently, so this is a very sad day for us. Shortly, we will begin the process of shutting down our main furnace. Remaining employees will be finishing existing glassware from the company's inventory that will be available through the Fenton Gift Shop as well as the company's web site and Fenton dealers across the country."

As a part of winding down the traditional business, Fenton Art Glass is exploring the sales of one or more product lines.



"We know that our many customers and friends will have questions," Fenton said. "Our web site www.fentonartglass.com will be updated regularly."

Inquiries regarding sales of equipment and other assets should be directed to Fenton Art Glass at assetinfo@fentonartglass.com

Management at the Fenton Gift Shop is evaluating the impact of the termination of traditional glassmaking at Fenton Art Glass. "The Fenton Gift Shop is in discussions with Fenton Art Glass, the glass manufacturing company, to provide customers with a wide range of samples and special decorations as well as final quantities of limited edition pieces," said Randall Fenton, President of the Fenton Gift Shop.

New Bedford Museum

Greetings from the New Bedford Museum of Glass! We would like to invite you to attend our 1st year anniversary, taking place at the Museum Thursday, September 15th from 6 to 8pm. It will be an evening of wine and celebration as we reflect upon the progress made during the past year and look ahead to the future. There will be a gallery presentation at 7pm, and don't miss the display of beautiful 19th century pattern glass recently donated for our benefit raffle. Tickets will be available that evening, with the drawing set for January 1st, 2012.

Please notice, when making your travel plans, that we have conveniently scheduled our celebration to coincide with the Sandwich Glass show weekend. Consider attending both events! We hope to see many familiar faces from the glass and local communities, and look forward to seeing many new ones as well. The anniversary event will be open to the public, so guests are welcome! The New Bedford Antiques Center. Laura A. Coffin Assistant Director The New Bedford Museum of Glass 508-984-1666 www.nbmog.org

First Class

DECEMBER 1, 2011
DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE'S

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

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Foxborough, MA 02035
or reach us through email at: planetatlasaville@gmail.com



The National
American Glass Club
Box 24
Elkland, PA 16920

