



Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Spring 2002

Fellows Arrive at Wheaton Village

The Creative Glass Center of America at Wheaton Village announces the recent arrival of the Winter 2002 Fellowship recipients.

Miyuki Nishiuchi has studied at the Toyama Institute of Glass in Japan, attended a session in glass studies at Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC and she was employed at the production glass studio of Yachiyo Kakou Co., Ltd. which involved the complete design and production of the glass line. She attended Pilchuck Glass School under a Partner Scholarship and subsequently has been nominated for the Corning Award for 2002.

John Paul Robinson built his first glass studio and taught himself to blow glass. He has taught at Ontario College of Art in Toronto. Currently, he teaches at the Centre des Metiers du Verre du Quebec and works in Montreal, Canada.

Jeffrey Sarmiento received his MFA from Rhode Island School of Design and has worked as a glassblower for Studio Inferno, a production studio in New Orleans, and Fanefford Glas in Denmark.

Scott Benefield received his MFA in glass from Ohio State University in 1990, following a year spent in Sweden on a Fulbright-Hays grant to study glass design with Ann Wolff. He was co-founder and first Educational Director of the New Orleans School of GlassWorks. In 1996, Mr. Benefield started Isola Glass on Camano Island, WA.

For more information about CGCA's Fellowship Program call (856) 825-6800, ext. 2733; www.wheatonvillage.org

For Show, Not Play

With the assistance of members from Chess Collectors International, the Museum of American Glass at Wheaton Village will present "*For Show, Not Play: Glass Chess Sets*" on April 6 - October 20. The show includes over 30 glass sets borrowed from the Long Island Chess Museum (Box 166 Commack, NY 11725 (631) 543-1330), Corning Museum of Glass and private collectors.

The history of the game of chess is a fascinating story that begins around 600 AD.

Glass chess sets were most likely made for show, not play. The earliest example included in the exhibition will be an ancient piece from an Islamic chess set, lent by Corning. 19th C. Venetian examples and 20th C. sets such as the one created by Frederick Carder of the Steuben Glass Company will illustrate the diverse style of glass chess set makers. In addition, there will be chess sets marketed by companies such as Avon and the perfumer, Mary Chess, as a venue to sell their products.

The exhibit's last section showcases the works of contemporary glass artists such as Charles Lotton, Milton Townsend and Gianni Toso who create delicate, decorative chess sets.

Chess related activities are planned throughout the exhibit's run. They will include lectures, tournaments and electronic games available for play by visitors. (856) 825-6800, ext. 2756

Wheaton Village is open daily, 10am - 5pm, April - December.

Chihuly Studio Editions

The Gallery of American Craft at Wheaton Village, Millville, NJ will present, "*Dale Chihuly: Studio Editions*," through March 30. Chihuly's current and past glass edition pieces and his newest limited edition prints, shown for the first time, will



Larkspur Seaform

be on exhibit and for sale.

Among the ten to eleven pieces are "Baskets", "Seaforms" and "Persians." Because of the process involved in glassblowing, each handblown Studio Edition is unique. Accompanying each piece is a book related to that artwork's specific glass series and a specially designed museum-quality, Plexiglas vitrine with black base.

Credited with restoring vitality to a craft that began centuries ago in Venice, Chihuly has taken glass to new heights with his revolutionary creativity and skill.

His works are exhibited internationally and collected by over 190 museums worldwide.

The Gallery of American Craft features fine American crafts and one-of-a-kind contemporary works in a series of exhibitions throughout the year.



Piccolo Venetian

President's letter

Dear Friends,

In my last letter I reviewed the Board meeting held in November and some of the topics brought up at that time.

First off, the new brochure that I mentioned is well on its way to fruition. Ellen Roberts, past president of NAGC, has been working diligently on its format and content. A short time ago she sent me the printer's proof. I reviewed them and as I write this they should be on the presses and ready for distribution.

One other item of business was the announcement that the Sheriffs (Bill and Nancy) had asked to be relieved of their longtime position of "the Membership Committee". I am very pleased to announce that Pam Christoffel of Hagerstown, MD has volunteered to be the new Membership Chair. She has spent some time with the Sheriffs and has jumped into the job with both feet. She has some good ideas on increasing membership. Let's help and give her all the cooperation we can.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the seminar this May in Texas. Carmen has worked very hard to put together a wonderful panel of speakers.

- Douglas Reed

Westchester Glass Show

On April 20 and 21, the 26th annual Collectors Glass Show and Sale, sponsored by the Westchester Glass Club, will take place at the Greenwich Civic Center in Old Greenwich, CT.

60 well established dealers will be on hand offering a large variety of fine glassware of all periods. There will be glass repair and free glass identification. A catered luncheon will be available on both days.

Kirk Nelson, NAGC past president and currently the Director of the GlassArt Center, Bennington, VT will be the featured speaker on Saturday at 2pm and again on Sunday at 9am. He will present the lecture "A Passion for Sandwich Glass: The Adventures of Pioneer Collector Albert E. Shaw"

Show hours are Saturday, April 20th from 10am - 5pm and on Sunday, April 21st from 10am - 4pm.

Please call Douglas Reed (973) 763-4524 for information and to receive an admission discount card.

Happy Conclusion to Tiffany Mosaic Drama

by Kirk Nelson

In the Autumn 2000 issue of the *Glass Club Bulletin* I described the perilous situation of one of the nation's monumental glass creations, the "Dream Garden" mosaic designed by artist Maxfield Parish and executed in glass by the renowned Louis Comfort Tiffany. Measuring 15 feet high and 49 feet long, this shimmering 6-ton wall of glass was constructed in 1916 to ornament the lobby of the new Curtis Publishing Company building in downtown Philadelphia.

There it stood in undisturbed, magnificent splendor until 1998, when a startled public learned that the mosaic had been sold. They further learned, much to their horror, that the mosaic was to be ripped from its original setting and shipped to an intended new home at the Bellagio Casino in Las Vegas, NV.

Pandemonium ensued, along with accusations, injunctions and of course, litigation. The mosaic received temporary protection from the hasty



designation it was granted as a "historic object" under the city's historic preservation ordinance but at the time of my writing for the *Bulletin* its fate remained uncertain. Now, thanks to the vigilance of

NAGC member Shirley Salanon, we learn that the legal issues have been resolved and that the mosaic will remain a permanent feature of Philadelphia's cultural landscape. Ms. Salanon has sent me a clipping from of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, (page H7 Nov. 11, 2001) that triumphantly announces "Preservationists hail 'Dream Garden' Victory." From it we learn that the Pew Charitable Trusts agreed to provide \$3.5 million to the estate of the mosaic's previous owner, and that the mosaic will become the property of the Pennsylvania Academy to be maintained in perpetuity in its original location adjacent to Independence Square.

A triumph for preservationists and for glass enthusiasts everywhere!

New Contemporary Art Center in Toldedo

The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH, made public the design concept for its

new \$25 million Center for Glass to be constructed on the museum's 32-acre campus.

The Center, designed by a Tokyo-based architectural firm will house the Museum's internationally acclaimed glass collection, considered to be one of the two most important in the world.

To be constructed almost completely of the medium it celebrates, the Center will be virtually transparent, blurring the boundaries between interior and exterior spaces and resulting in the structure's complete integration into its environment.

In describing the project, lead architects Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa wrote: "With the ability to blur borders, housing glass in glass suggests contextual relations turned

inside out. As physical borders blur and bend, so do notions such as

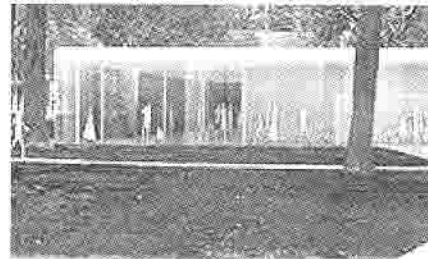
program and context..."

The one-story structure will comprise 57,600 square feet of space and a total of approximately 12,500 square feet devoted to

exhibition space will feature the museum's vast and celebrated collection of glass from antiquity through the present day.

The Center will also include a state-of-the-art glassmaking facility. Visitors to the Center will be able not only to view the collection, which represents the entire spectrum of glass and glassmaking through history, but also to see artists at work, creating objects that may very well be tomorrow's treasures.

Groundbreaking for the Center for Glass is tentatively slated for 2003. For more information, contact: Barbara Stahl (419) 255-8000 x7309



Glass Calendar

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

Through - January 5, 2003

MORSE MUSEUM of American Art, 445 North Park Ave., Winter Park, FL (407) 645-5311. Home to one of the most comprehensive Tiffany collections, the Morse Museum will present "Art Nouveau: From the Morse Collection". www.morsemuseum.org

March 16 & 17, 2002

30th Annual ALL-HEISEY GLASS SHOW, Bohrer Park Activity Ctr., 505 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg, MD. 10am-6pm Sat. and 11am-4pm Sun. All proceeds to benefit the Heisey Museum. (301) 432-6285 www.heiseymuseum.org

April 6, 2002

PAPERWEIGHT SHOW WV Museum of Glass P.O. Box 547, Weston, WV 26452. Annual show offering paperweights for sale from local artists and on display from private collections. (304) 269-5006 <http://members.aol.com/wvmuseumofglass>

April 6, 2002

21st Annual GLASS COLLECTORS SHOW & SALE. Sponsored by MD area chapters of NAGC. Bohrer Park at Summit Hall, 508 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg, MD. Antique to contemporary glass. 10am-5pm (301) 774-7168

April 13 - May 19, 2002

WHEATON VILLAGE, Millville, NJ (800) 998-4552 ext. 2756. "Paul Stankard and Katherine Stankard Campbell" a joint show of glass and drawings.

April 20 & 21, 2002

26th GLASS COLLECTOR'S SHOW & SALE sponsored by the Westchester Glass Club will be held at the Greenwich Civic Center in Old Greenwich, CT. Kirk Nelson of the GlassArt Center, Bennington, VT, will present "Adventures of Pioneer Collector Albert E. Shaw". (973) 763-4524

April 26 - 28, 2002

EASTERN NATIONAL ANTIQUES Show & Sale, at the State Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA. The "Premiere Glass Show in America" is hosting more than 300 exhibitors with every kind of glass. For more information or directions contact Jim Chambers (610) 437-5534 jcmarena@aol.com

April 27 & 28, 2002

ANTIQUÉ GLASS SHOW & Sale sponsored by the Bay State Heisey Collectors Club to be held at the J.F.K. Jr. High School, Waltham, MA. 25 dealers offer glassware of all periods. Show hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4 and a free glass ID session on Sun. 2-3pm. Contact Louis Lopilato for further information (617) 387-0017. email info@glassresearch.com

May 2 - 4, 2002

18th ANNUAL SEMINAR on Glass sponsored by NAGC to be held at College Station, Bryan, TX. Any questions should be directed to the program chair Carmen Freeman (941) 966-4406; carmenfreeman@aol.com

May 10 & 11, 2002

GREEN VALLEY AUCTIONS, 2259 Green Valley Ln., Mt. Crawford, VA 22841 (540) 434-4260. This will be an important cataloged auction of 18th & 19th Century glass and bottles. www.greenvalleyauctions.com

May 16 - 18, 2002

WHEATON VILLAGE, Millville, NJ (800) 998-4552 ext. 2756. PaperWeight Weekend

May 16 - October 21, 2002

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, Corning, NY (607) 974-6467 www.cmog.org; "Glass Behind the Iron Curtain, 1948-1978" This is a powerful exhibition which celebrates art's role in a cry for freedom.

May 30 - June 2, 2002

The NATIONAL IMPERIAL GLASS Collectors Society will hold its 26th annual convention at the Hampton Inn in St. Clairsville, OH. The theme for the convention will be Imperials' "Vintage Milk Glass". (603) 424-1146 www.imperialglass.org

June 2, 2002

ANTIQUÉ BOTTLE SHOW & SALE, Saratoga Springs City Ctr., 522 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY sponsored by the National Bottle Museum (518) 885-7589; web page <http://family.knick.net/nbm>. 160 sales table plus beautiful exhibits. 9:30am - 2:30pm.

June 7 - 9, 2002

FOSTORIA GLASS Society of America, P.O. Box 826, Moundsville, WV 26041 (304) 845-9188. The 22nd Annual Show and Sale will be held at

the Delf Nora Museum Moundsville, WV. Featured will be glassware by Fostoria, Heisey, Cambridge, Imperial, and Morgantown. www.fostoriaglass.org

June 19 - 22, 2002

31st ANNUAL HEISEY COLLECTOR'S National Convention featuring the premiere Glass Show & Sale. Activities will be posted on the website: www.heiseymuseum.org National Heisey Glass Museum 169 W. Church St., Newark, OH 43055 (740) 345-2932

June 21 & 22, 2002

WHEATON VILLAGE, Millville, NJ (800) 998-4552 ext. 2756. "Marble Weekend: A Marble Artists and Collectors Conference" www.wheatonvillage.org

June 26 - 30, 2002

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS Convention P.O. Box 416, Cambridge, OH 43725-0416 will be held at the Pritchard-Laughlin Civic Center, Cambridge, OH. (740) 432-4245 www.cambridgeglass.org

July 6 - October 27, 2002

MUSEUM OF GLASS International Center for Contemporary Art, 1801 Dock St., Tacoma, WA 98402. One of the inaugural exhibitions will be "The Inner Light: Sculpture by Stanislav Libensky and Jaroslav Brychtová". For almost five decades, the Czech artists Libensky and Brychtová have explored the artistic potential of glass. Libensky paints and sketches while Brychtová interprets his designs in clay sculpture. Master craftsmen follow, making plaster molds that are then filled with glass shards and fired. (253) 396-1768 www.museumofglass.org

July 6 - October 6, 2002

MUSEUM OF GLASS International Center for Contemporary Art, 1801 Dock St., Tacoma, WA 98402. "Sounds of the Inner Eye: John Cage, Mark Tobey and Morris Graves" Tobey, Graves and Cage met in Seattle, WA, in the mid-1930s. They experienced their first artistic successes during the 1940s in New York's avant-garde art and music scene. www.museumofglass.org (253) 396-1768.

New Cambridge Glass Museum to Reopen

In June, the National Cambridge Collectors, Inc. will proudly open its premiere glass museum in downtown Cambridge, OH. It will house a superb collection of Cambridge glassware produced by The Cambridge Glass Company from 1902 to 1958. The museum is located at 136 South 9th Street. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of the company. The Museum Grand Opening celebration will take place during NCC Convention week on June 27, 2002.

The History of Glassmaking is represented using mannequins in 1,100 square feet of exhibits with a mock furnace, tools, molds and other items involved in the manufacturing process of fine handmade glassware. Within this area, visitors can see an etching table, a decorating area and an engraving/cutting area.

Included in the museum is a 100 square foot



Cambridge Glass Gallery

Dining Room display. Using period furniture as its backdrop, the room is appointed in examples of a finely set table in the early 1900s.

The Sample Room played a very important part in the sales of The Cambridge Glass Company. Another 100 square foot room has been created to represent a Sample Room. This room uses original sample room furniture and shelving.



Dinning Room Display

In addition to original Cambridge glassware, an area has been created to display reproductions. With the advent of reproductions, it is important that collectors learn to distinguish between original and reproduction items. This display will help to make these distinctions crystal clear.

The museum has a gift shop where visitors may purchase small glass items and select from a library of books that are for sale. Also available for purchase and viewing is the video *"The Crystal Lady,"* which was an original Cambridge advertisement for glassware. In the future, the museum will offer a research room full of an outstanding collection of reference materials.

The museum is handicap accessible with plenty of parking available. It is open April through October: Wednesday – Saturday, 9am to 4pm; and Sunday, noon to 4pm, closed Easter. (740) 432-4245 or visit on the Internet at www.cambridgeglass.org.

For other information, write: National Cambridge Collectors, Inc., PO Box 416, Cambridge, OH 43725.

Celebrate Spring In Texas...

...and celebrate our freedom of choice to go there! The 90 acre campus of Texas A&M offers us:

- **Intellectual pursuits** at two libraries;
- **Visual pursuits** at The Runyon Galleries in the MSC Forsyth Center with French Paperweights, American Cut Glass, English Cameo, French Gallé, American Art Glass – a visual feast;
- **Educational pursuits** with seven lectures covering glass from the 12th C. to the present, Cameo at the Chrysler, Early 19th C. American, Contemporary, bewitching Mt. Washington and even glass retrieved from the bottom of the sea;
- **Social and interactive pursuits** not to be neglected, music, dining and dancing.

See you there! Celebrate Life!
-from Carmen Freeman, Seminar Chair

New Contemporary Glass Gallery

Thanks to the generosity of the Chrysler's Business Exhibition Council and the Grant Parsons Fund, the museum will unveil a new gallery dedicated to the Chrysler's spectacular contemporary glass collection on March 22. The new space will allow for the installation of the collection as it has substantially outgrown the



Canopic Jar:
Javan Muntjac, 1995

temporary areas which it formerly occupied. Many recent acquisitions as well as old favorites, such as William Morris' Canopic Jar, Javan Muntjac and Gianni Toso's Chess Set, will be among the pieces on exhibit.

The Chrysler Museum is located at 245 West Olney Road Norfolk, VA 23510
(757) 664-6200
www.chrysler.org

Memorial/Gift Fund

The following individuals have been honored by NAGC members or chapters who have generously donated to the Memorial Fund: In memory of **Paul Gardner** from anonymous; **Eva Hirsh** from Westchester Glass Club; **Mary Lizzadro** from Greater Chicago Glass Collectors Club; **Joseph Martin** from Westchester Glass Club; and **Margaret Pickford** from the Mt. Vernon Chapter.

Important Early American Glass Discovery

Green Valley Auctions, Inc. announces the discovery of an extremely important pair of previously unrecorded circa 1830 blown & pressed whale oil lamps attributed to the Boston & Sandwich Glass Company. This unique matched pair features blown molded globular fonts with twelve lower flutes, well executed button knob stems and heavy pressed stippled Pinwheel toddy plate bases. Measuring 6 1/2" high, their bases are 4 7/8" in diameter. Both are in remarkable condition and retain their original tin drop burners.

These spectacular lamps are closely related to the pair of blown and pressed candlesticks with identical toddy plate bases, one of each formerly in the collections of William Elsholz and Scott Hambidge. The Elsholz example was exhibited at Corning in 1954 and the Henry Ford

Museum in 1960 while the Hambidge example was included in the 1995 exhibit "Sensational Sandwich."



Sandwich Whale Oil Lamps c. 1830

Auctioneer Jeffrey S. Evans, who discovered this unique pair in a home near New York City last year, stated, "This is undoubtedly one of the most important discoveries in the field of early American glass in the last 20 years." With a pre-sale estimate of \$15,000 - \$25,000 for the pair, Evans

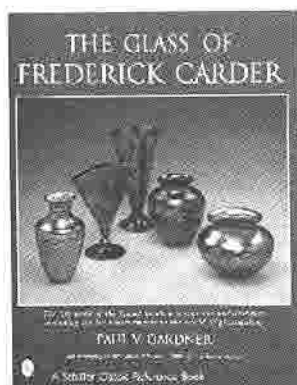
added, "It's very difficult to place estimates on rarities of this magnitude. The aforementioned single stick from the Hambidge collection sold in 2000 for a record \$30,800. At that time no one knew these lamps existed."

They are to be included in Green Valley's Annual Cataloged Auction of 18th & 19th Century Glass and Ceramics to be held May 10 & 11, 2002. This highly important auction will feature colored and colorless blown and pressed wares in all categories, rare bottles and related material from the collections of Harold & the late Marcia Grunewald, Hillsborough, NC, Kyle Husfloen, Dubuque, IA, plus others.

For further information visit www.greenvalleyauctions.com or contact Mr. Jeffrey S. Evans at (540) 434-4260.

Definitive Book on Frederick Carder Reissued

The Glass of Frederick Carder, by Paul V. Gardner. (Schiffer Publishing, Atglen, PA (610) 593-1777 www.schifferbooks.com; 373 pages \$75.00)



When this book was first published in 1971, a review written by Orva Heissenbittel in the *Mid-America Reporter* (October, 1972) states, "The creative genius of Frederick Carder was brought back to life in Paul Gardner's book and will live forever in the legacy of glass he left behind for collectors."

There is no question now of the impact the work of Mr. Carder and the Steuben Glass Works has had on glassmaking and collecting. The Corning Museum has dedicated an entire gallery to showcase the 2000+

Carder examples on loan from the Rockwell Museum. This book was published to coincide with gallery's opening in April, 2001.



Stemware at Corning's Frederick Carder Gallery

Many collectors are already familiar with Carder's innovations in glass colors and designs including Aurene, Tyrian, Verre de Soie, Cyprian, Ivrene, Cintra, Cluthra, Intarsia and Diatreta. But now there is a whole new generation of glass enthusiasts to educate and interest. When one considers that each time this book is reprinted it has sold-out, this reprint is both welcomed and timely.

Frederick Carder's life is chronicled from his early work with England's Williams & Stevens Factory and continues on to America and his association with T.G. Hawkes. We follow his experiments with color and design and even learn of his lawsuit with L.C. Tiffany.

Most helpful for the collector are

the line drawings from actual catalogs and the over 700 photos of Steuben glass. Also quite valuable is the discussion of the various Steuben and Carder signatures.

Ownership of this definitive book is almost mandatory for any collector of American glass.

Sandwich Glass Museum

The remodeling is continuing at the Sandwich Glass Museum on Cape Cod, MA and there is still much to do. The glass has been stored for safety reasons during the construction of the additions, but museum staff expects to have the original galleries available to the public in April of this year. By June, the newly constructed shop will be completed and open for business.

Much will change at the museum including a larger introductory exhibit with glass from around the world and of course the glass furnace! They expect total completion by the end of 2002.

For updates please visit the web site www.sandwichglassmuseum.org

New NAGC Membership Chair

Pam Christoffel will be the new membership chair for NAGC. All membership concerns including renewals and further membership correspondence should be addressed to:

The National American Glass Club
PO Box 1497, Hagerstown, MD
21741-1497

She may also be reached through email at bchristoffel@home.com

Please send any address changes to Ms. Christoffel.

The members of the NAGC want to thank Bill & Nancy Sheriff for their many years of service to the club. They both gave their time generously.

We wish Pam all the best in her new position.

Chapter News

On March 5th the **New York Metropolitan Glass Club** hosted a lecture given by Nicholas M. Dawes entitled "*The Art of René Lalique*". The lectures are held at St. Michael's Church, 225 West 99th Street, NYC. For information about the club and future lectures, call (212) 861-7776 or (212) 439-1609.

On April 1st, **Westchester Glass Club NY** will host Tom Dimitroff for his lecture "*Frederick Carder and his Steuben Glass*," at 7:30pm. All meetings are at the Woman's Club of White Plains. Contact: Pamela P. Levine at cheesespring@juno.com for directions.

Founder's Chapter in Boston held a festive meeting in February which featured glass table settings and serving pieces. Speaker Dorothy Palmgren led the discussion inviting members to speak about their glass examples.



Glass Table Settings

Remember to send in your Chapter News! It's an easy way to keep in touch with the other chapters and to get new ideas for your own club.

Send to: Alice Walsh, Editor,
Glass Shards, 11 Bentwood St.,
Foxborough, MA 02035
as@practice-corp.com

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



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ATTENTION READERS!
The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be JUNE 1, 2002.

Submit by mail to:
Alice Walsh, Editor, *Glass Shards*, 11 Bentwood Street,
Foxborough, MA 02035
or reach us through email at: as@practice-corp.com



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