

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Spring 2024

Pittsburgh Chapter Assists Glass Artist

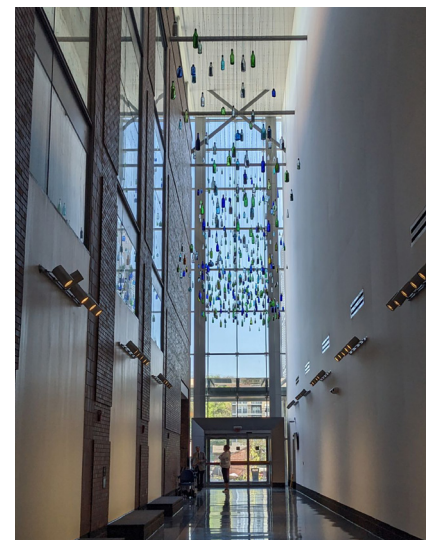
The Lowell Innes Chapter of the NAGC had the honor and pleasure of playing a small role in the creation of a public art installation using historic Pittsburgh glass bottles at the UPMC Mercy Hospital pavilion. When California artist Kipp Kobayashi approached NAGC President Anne Madarasz for guidance on his commission for the new wing of the hospital, she involved members of the Club in the formative work for the installation.

Kobayashi, who has long created public art, drew upon the history of Pittsburgh and its glass manufacturers for inspiration in developing this work, titled *Storybank*. He imagined creating a ribbon of glass suspended from the ceiling in the new hospital entryway that recalled the three rivers of Pittsburgh and the region's industrial history. Each bottle would hold a message, written by the hospital staff, visitors, and the public, that expressed

their wishes and dreams for the future. The glass became the vessels connecting past, present, and future and providing a vista of shape and color visible from overlooks throughout the four-story space.

Kobayashi drew upon the knowledge and contacts of club members to better understand the manufacture of this glass, to assist in gathering the more than 500 historical objects needed for the installation, and to hold a public outreach program to gather messages and share information on the project. In a recent club program Kobayashi shared his insights into the challenges he encountered during the process of creating this installation and the feedback he has received since the recent opening of the building. To learn more about this talented artist visit his website at <https://www.kippkobayashi.com/about>. The Club enjoyed the opportunity to contribute

in a small way to this project which showcases the beauty of functional glass objects transformed into vessels of art and memory.



The completed public art installation adds ever-changing color and interest to the UPMC Mercy Hospital entry pavilion.



Pittsburgh NAGC Chapter members assist Kobayashi in gathering bottles and memories at a public program at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh.



A close-up of the bottles during installation.

A Most Gracious Lady: In Memory of Dianne Bloom Gregg

Dianne Bloom Gregg, 87, President of the NAGC's Sandwich Chapter, passed away at her home in Potomac, Maryland, on February 12. One of the country's leading experts in art glass and Russian ceramics, Dianne assembled an outstanding collection of contemporary and antique glass. She published several articles on these topics for the *Glass Club Bulletin*, *Glass Collector's Digest*, *Acorn*, and other publications, and served as a guest speaker at museums including The Corning Museum of Glass where she was also a supporting member.

Dianne donated to the collections of The Corning Museum of Glass, Yale University Art Library, and The New Bedford Museum of Glass, and to the Rakow Library at Corning. She became an expert assistant to the curators of the glass collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and worked as a certified appraiser in these fields through her own company, Glassnob Antiques. In addition, she curated glass exhibits, the most memorable being one on Murano glass at the Potomac Branch

of the Montgomery County, Maryland, Public Library in 2002. She was the prime mover in assimilating the Blakistone Glass Library into the Potomac Branch (<https://glassclub.org/blakistone.htm>). Because of critical space limitations at the Potomac Branch, that collection has since been divided between The Museum of American Glass, Weston, West Virginia, and The New Bedford Museum of Glass, New Bedford, Massachusetts.

A cherished memory of mine was accompanying Dianne in 2010 to a Glass Club Seminar in Greenwich, Connecticut, which included a visit to The Metropolitan Museum of Art. My late wife Dorothy and I treasured our visits to Dianne's home where she shared her collection and knowledge with us and "... just talked glass."

Dianne became one of the first members and an officer of the Potomac Village Garden Club. In a special ceremony in the fall of 2023, the club honored her with emeritus status for her six decades of service and dedication. The Society also honored her by naming a new variety the "Dianne



Dianne Bloom Gregg. Photo: Susan B. Strange

Gregg Azalea." Her own azalea garden, planted with her husband, James, who survives, became a local attraction. Besides her husband, Dianne is survived by her sons John Malcolm Hall Gregg (Wendy Stasolla) and Thomas Gregg (Elisha Gregg), daughter, Jennifer Gregg, and four grandchildren, Anna, Ian, Sara, and Caroline Gregg. I will always remember Dianne—she was a most gracious lady and will be dearly missed.

Respectfully submitted by Francis Allen, past president of the NAGC.

A Collector's Eye: Freer in Egypt

Like many 19th-century Americans, Charles Lang Freer was intrigued by ancient Egypt. Between 1906 and 1909, he visited the country three times on his way to destinations further east. These visits were crucial in nurturing his interest in ancient Egyptian art, which to him was the "greatest art in the world." During these years, he acquired a range of works that included the renowned Washington Codex—one of the oldest Bibles in the world. He also collected

an exceptional group of New Kingdom Egyptian glass vessels, a Byzantine jewelry set, amulets, and hundreds of beads, many of which will be seen in this ongoing exhibition.

NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF ASIAN ART
Smithsonian Institution
1050 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20013-7012
(202) 633-1000
<https://asia.si.edu>



Glass amulet, Egypt, 305 BCE–14 CE.

President's Letter

Dues are Due for 2024–2025

Dear NAGC Members:

Chapters should begin that annual rite of summer—collecting dues for the coming year. Please reach out to your chapter members and assemble an updated membership list to submit with dues by September. The list is

vital for communication and for mailing *Shards* and the *Glass Club Bulletin*. Dues can be sent to our treasurer, Linda Reed, at P.O. Box 66, Andes, New York, 13731.

We would also love to hear your chapter news, information about meaningful programs, field trips, exhibits, and public outreach. Have you researched something new in

glass? Consider sharing an article with the *Bulletin*. We appreciate the scholarship of our members and those in the glass community. Best for a wonderful summer.

Yours in glass,
Anne Madarasz
President, NAGC

The Museum of Glass and *The Salmon School*

The Salmon School is a temporary sculpture exhibit on view through September 15, 2024, that consists of approximately 450 mirrored glass forms, suspended as if a school of fish. Each form is hand-blown from molten glass by artists and makers from around the world, all of whom are concerned by the plight of wild salmon. Working with the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, WA, the initial forms were created, and a method was developed to easily replicate versions of a

salmon-like shape using blown glass.

SCHOOL, the Joseph Rossano *Salmon Project*, was created and first exhibited in the Pacific Northwest region of the USA. At the time, the project involved collaboration between Museum of Glass, Bellevue Arts Museum, Hilltop Artists, Schack Art Center, Trout Unlimited, Glacier Peak Institute, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Informed by tribal elders from the Upper Skagit Tribe, the exhibit quantifies the diminished

state of wild salmon and steelhead populations on the Skagit River.

This first exhibition highlighted issues confronting wild salmon and natural salmon habitats throughout the range of these fish. *SCHOOL* proposed the positioning of an entire run of wild Pacific salmon — in mirrored glass forms — within a known space, such as a basketball court. By placing a seemingly endless resource in a universally understood space, *SCHOOL* offered a perspective exposing the sustainability issues facing wild salmon today.



MUSEUM OF GLASS
1801 Dock St.
Tacoma, WA 98402
(253) 284-4750
www.museumofglass.org

THE SALMON SCHOOL
<https://www.thesalmonschool.com>

SCHOOL. Installation at the Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA, April 2019.

Exhibition of the Early History and Glass of Steuben Glass Works

Local Color: Secrets of Steuben Glass showcases the early history of the Steuben Glass Works, founded in Corning, NY, in 1903, and the dazzling variety of glass Steuben developed in the early 20th century. Under the artistic leadership of Frederick Carder, a community of European immigrant expert glassworkers, local artisans, and women were recruited to realize his artistic vision, which included developing more than 100 new glass colors and hundreds of designs in a variety of forms and styles.

There will be examples of Carder's most famous and rare glass colors. Visitors will learn about some of the Steuben European glassmakers and the specialized glass techniques they

championed, see original sketches of designs and recipes for glassmaking, and view a rarely exhibited hanging glass and metal Art Deco lighting fixture. They will also learn about the kinds of work women did at Steuben and will be invited to add to our understanding of women's roles by sharing stories of women they know who may have worked at Steuben in the past. The exhibit is on through May 24, 2024.

THE CORNING MUSEUM
OF GLASS
One Museum Way
Corning, NY 14830
(800) 732-6845
www.cmog.org



Blue Aurene perfume bottle with stopper, 1928.

Chrysler Museum Fantastic Creatures

Opulence and fanciful ornamentation outshine craftsmanship and technique in *Fantastic Creatures of the Venetian Lagoon: Glass 1875–1915*, an exhibition of Italian glass from the permanent collection of the Chrysler Museum of Art. Visitors can gaze upon dragons, dolphins, seahorses, pegasi, swans, and serpents as they creep around vase necks, twine up goblet stems, and perch atop bowl rims. This unique and rare collection of 50 glass wonders will be on view through August 18, 2024.

At the turn of the 20th century, Venetian glassmakers adorned blown glass



Granzioli dragon compote. Blown and applied glass, about 1877–1914.

vessels with fabulous beasts sculpted from hot glass and dusted with gold. The artworks attest to both their imagination and virtuosity and represent a stunning revival of the Venetian glass industry. When glassmaking in Venice reemerged in the 1860s after a half-century of depression, an atmosphere of creativity and friendly competition arose among Venetian glass companies.

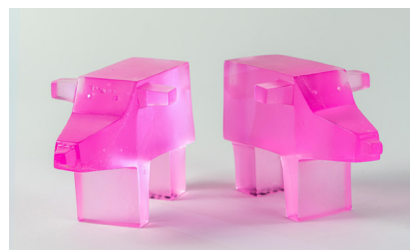
CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART
One Memorial Place
Norfolk, VA 23510
(757) 664-6200
<https://chrysler.org>

Glass Art Challenges Viewer's Notions of Perception

Imagine Differently showcases over two dozen pieces of both abstract and representational contemporary glass art by internationally acclaimed glass artists. Discover how glass artists, through their imaginative faculties, have redefined the landscape of contemporary glass art. This exhibition

invites visitors to ponder, "How can we Imagine Differently?"

IMAGINE MUSEUM
1901 Central Ave.
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
(727) 300-1700
<https://www.imagemuseum.com>



Piglet. Ivana Sramkova.

Glass Calendar

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

June 1–2, 2024

SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM
Sixth Annual SeaFair
 129 Main St.
 Sandwich, MA 02563
 (508) 888-0251
<https://sandwichglassmuseum.org>

An exciting outdoor show and sales event that showcases glass artists and their amazing talent! Aquatic and nautical themed glass items will delight all who attend.



The event features pieces blown in the SGM Studio along with the best by local and regional artists. Items include whale tails, conch shells, waves, sailboats, various sea creatures, and other nautical ornaments.

This outdoor event is free to attend. Touring of the museum is paid admission.

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June 7–9, 2024

FOSTORIA GLASS SOCIETY
 OF AMERICA
43rd Annual Glass Show and Sale
 Moundsville Center
 901 Eighth St.
 Moundsville, WV
 (304) 845-3176
www.fostoriaglass.org



Glassware by Fostoria, Imperial, Morgantown, Fenton, Cambridge, Heisey, and others will be on display and for sale. There will be a seminar, a glass auction, and flea market accompanying the show.

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June 27–29, 2024

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE CLUB
The 2024 Convention and Glass Show and Sale
 Pritchard-Laughlin Civic Center
 7033 Glenn Highway
 Cambridge, OH 43725
<https://www.cambridgeglass.org>

Each year, the NCC sponsors a glass show in conjunction with its Annual Convention, held at the Pritchard-Laughlin Civic Center in Cambridge, Ohio. The show features a number of quality dealers, some of whom only exhibit at this show.

The 2024 Glass Show and Sale features glass by Cambridge as well as glass by other manufacturers such as Heisey, Imperial, Morgantown, Steuben, Fenton, Duncan Miller, Tiffin,

Westmoreland, and more. This is one of the best and prettiest Elegant glass shows in the area.

The Convention includes the “Glass Dash” sales event, which is held off-site. The glass sold at the “Dash” tends to be nearly all Cambridge.

There are banquets on both Friday and Saturday nights along with a short membership meeting and the popular “Bring and Brag” session, emceed by Lynn Welker.



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July 13–14, 2024

TIFFIN GLASS COLLECTORS CLUB
48th Annual Glass Show and Sale
 Tiffin Glass Museum
 27 S. Washington St.
 Tiffin, OH 44883
 (419) 448-0200
<https://www.tiffinglass.org>

The convention will be held at the Tiffin Middle School, 103 Shepard Dr., Tiffin, OH, and features nationally known dealers, educational seminars and displays, and live auctions.



New Flamework Fellowship Honoring Paul Stankard

WheatonArts is thrilled to announce a new, exciting opportunity for the glass community—the inaugural Paul Stankard Flamework Fellowship! As a center dedicated to the preservation and advancement of glass as an artistic medium, this Fellowship, within the Creative Glass Fellowship Program, honors the legacy of Paul Stankard and his invaluable contributions to the world of flameworking.

The Paul Stankard Flamework Fellowship will be awarded to an emerging or mid-career artist who is innovating and pushing the boundaries of artwork made with a torch. One Fellowship per year will be open to artists eager to explore and expand their flameworking practice.

WheatonArts believes in fostering creativity and providing artists with

the necessary resources to achieve their artistic aspirations. The artist selected as the Paul Stankard Flamework Fellow will receive a six-week residency with benefits that include access to the Glass Studio, a dedicated studio space, most materials, housing, a stipend, and the support of a dynamic artist community.

- Application Deadline: September 20, 2024 (Midnight EST)
- Residency Duration: Six weeks
- Fellowship Commencement: 2025

WHEATONARTS
1501 Glasstown Rd.
Millville, NJ 08332
(856) 825-6800
<https://www.wheatonarts.org>



Paul Stankard.

DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE'S
JUNE 1, 2024

Visit NAGC Web page:
www.glassclub.org

Return Service Requested

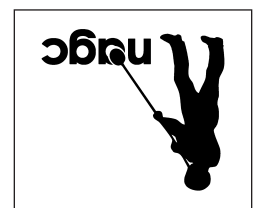
ATTENTION READERS!

The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be

June 1, 2024

Submit news to Alice Saville, *Glass Shards* Editor, at
planetalsaville@gmail.com

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