



Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Summer 2007

A Gracious Step Back in Time and Building a New Beginning in Redlands, CA

In August 1977, a 1905 Victorian home in the picturesque city of Redlands, CA, was purchased by the Historical Glass Museum Foundation to preserve specimens of American glass from factories that were both becoming extinct, and those currently producing glass.

The Redlands Historical Glass Museum opened to the public in 1985, and contains six rooms of ap-



Redlands Historical Glass Museum

On permanent display, are several private collections donated to the museum, including nearly 700 pieces of Jadite glass, over 300 vintage cruets, 300 perfume bottles, plus large collections of salt dips, goblets, mini mugs, glass bells, glass hats, glass shoes & slippers, paperweights, and other rare examples of glass art.

Jean Nemer's beautiful collection of glass beaded purses, dating from 1800s through 1940s is now on display at the Historical Glass Museum. Also on display, for a limited time, are a rare collection of Mercury Glass and a special collection of Depression Glass.

The HGMF is working in partnership with the Redlands Conservancy to move and restore an 1888 Victorian home which is next door to the museum. The vacated

home, purchased from the Salvation Army for the total price of \$.50, will be restored and used to display Contemporary American and European glass, dating from the mid-20th century to the 21st century, and will provide rooms for a research library, and classrooms for lectures and demonstrations of glass related lessons for young people and adults.

In addition, the Millennium Art Glass Gallery will feature work of 21st century glass artists.

The Historical Glass Museum's Expansion Plan Fund has been

established to raise money to restore, paint, and upgrade the exterior and interior of the Victorian home to its original splendor. Additional funds are needed to pay for landscaping, handicapped access, purchase display cases, provide security, and

many additional expenses related to creating the new Museum.

The HGMF project is highly successful due in part to the strong volunteer effort and support of local businesses. <http://glassmuseums.com>

1157 N. Orange st., PO Box 921
Redlands, CA 92373 (909) 793-3333

proximately 6,000 examples of glass from American manufactures of fine glassware and art glass dating from the early 19th Century through 21st Century art glass.

The glass is displayed in antique or custom built and illuminated cabinets. There are beautiful examples of glass by Heisey, Cambridge, Fenton, Fostoria, Sandwich factories, and most known manufactures of fine American glass produced during the depression era.



Harriet Thomason's
Collection of 300 Vintage Cruets



New Home of the Contemporary American
and European Glass Museum

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

How best to describe the Toledo Seminar? The feedback is that the Seminar Committee outdid themselves. The trips and visits, Toledo Glass Pavilion, presenters, banquet, and silent auction were greatly enjoyed with time for socializing, an annual members meeting and a board meeting. Congratulations Loreen Ryan, Karen Petraglia, and Tim Novak, and thank you Seminararians for your gifts of glass plus generous auction bids which added \$1,900 to the NAGC coffer.

NAGC membership needs our COLLECTIVE EFFORTS. While membership levels generally bobble up and down, over the past couple of years a downward trend may have settled in. Every member can make a difference. Invite a friend to join. Gift a membership. To assist you, NAGC brochure has been revised. Ask your Chapter for a supply or contact Publicity Chair Bill Thomas, VP Mary Cheek Mills, or yours truly (See Directory).

Principal focus at the board meeting was a proposal to begin strategic planning for the 21st Century. The Board approved formation of a 7-member committee consisting of 2 Board Members and three NAGC Members.

Before leaving for the Seminar, a family friend sent a flyer publicizing *The Art of Glass from Galle to Chihuly*, an exhibition which recently opened at The Newark Museum, Newark, NJ. The exhibition is the Museum's first major exhibition of contemporary studio glass. The Newark Museum was organized in 1909.

The Art of Glass includes 80 pieces by 60 prominent artists and examines the diverse ways in which glass was used as an artistic medium throughout the world, particularly during the late 20th century. The survey is organized into a three part grouping of contemporary studio glass from the Lowenbach collection entitled *The Sculptural Vessels, Figural Sculpture*, and *Abstract Sculpture*.

The exhibition's prologue looks at earlier glass objects from the Museum's collection of European and American art glass which began in 1913 and now numbers over 2000 pieces. 31 of these works, mostly created by hand and in factories as part of the decorative arts tradition, offer the viewer opportunity to begin exploration of the interconnections between art glass and studio glass.

According to Ulysses Grant Dietz, the Museum's Curator of Decorative Arts, "the exhibition covers almost every possible permutation of what an artist can do with glass – the diversity in style and technique is breathtaking."

Enjoy the days of summer,
Larry Steiner

Rare Western Flask Found

By Jeff Wichmann

A rare and remarkable flask was dug the last weekend of January, 2007. The Genuine or N. Grange flask was dug out of an outhouse from somewhere in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The N. Grange Flask is considered to be one of the top western flasks known. There are two variants of The Genuine Flask. One variant has a monogram with the letters S.F. with a slug plate (as shown here). The other reads "Sole Agents For The Pacific Coast." It is believed that there are now four of the second variant and maybe just 2 or 3 of the Pacific Coast variant. Another difference is that it is believed the second variant is the only one that comes in a greenish hue while the first variant has only been seen in straight amber. Since there is only a small slug plate at the bottom of the second variant to differentiate the two, it is believed it was made after the first variant in a new mold for some reason. It's not often you see a completely new variant of a bottle that is so rare.

Numa Grange lived in San Francisco as early as 1860. He started his wine and liquor outlet in late 1870 on Sansome Street. He moved in 1875 and finally ended his business in 1877, according to the late John Thomas. It is believed these large fifth size flasks were made in the mid 1870s, sometime during the period of locating at Sansome Street. Mike Dolcini, a Sacramento digger found a pure green example of the

second variant sometime in the early 1990s. It was found in downtown Sacramento next to another example with a horseshoe lying on top of it, or should we say in

the middle of it.

These are such rare flasks; many people have never seen one. This example was found by Andrew Koutsoukos and is a greenish yellow. Different in almost every way, even the top is a bizarre shape with a kind of double roll collar, usually reserved for citric bottles. It's hard to imagine what was going on in the head of Numa Grange when he had these flasks made. Why the large size? What's with the top and how come there are so few examples? It should be noted there is also a

western fifth with the Grange name on it. It is scarce and has the Sansome Street address.

There's no doubt that The Genuine is one of the top western flasks made in the west. Value? Well, a perfect example in green sold in excess of \$50,000. Another has changed hands at \$40,000. These are considered not only one of the top western bottles but one of the top bottles made in the west, period.

Congratulations to Andrew and his truly remarkable find. This is the first Genuine flask to come out of the ground in many years. With the few in existence and the fact that they are never dug, you can be pretty sure you won't see a new find of this bottle for quite some time.

This article was taken from the website of the American Bottle Auctions, 2523 J Street Suite 203, Sacramento, CA 95816. (800) 806-7722
www.americanbottle.com



Glass Calendar

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

Through July 1, 2007

THE BERGSTROM-MAHLER MUSEUM 165 North Park Ave., Neenah, WI 54956. "Victorian Glass Baskets" An annual exhibit, this collection provides a comprehensive look at the variety of surface treatments applied by English and American artisans. (920) 751-4658

www.paperweightmuseum.com

Through August 5, 2007

THE NEWARK MUSEUM, 49 Washington Street, Newark, NJ, "The Art of Glass from Gallé to Chihuly" Experience the wonder of glass as art. Featured artists include Dale Chihuly, Judith Schaechter and Lino Tagliapietra. The exhibition also includes historical works by Tiffany, Gallé, Ohrstrom, Venini, and Heaton. (973) 596 6550

www.NewarkMuseum.org

Through August 25, 2007

CORNING GALLERY OF STEUBEN GLASS presents "Animals in Glass," 667 Madison Ave., NYC. The exhibition explores the evolution of human attitudes toward other creatures by examining representations of animals in glass objects and art throughout history. <http://steuben.com>

Through September 16, 2007

PITTSBURGH GLASS CENTER 5472 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (412) 365-2145 "Allure of Japanese Glass" 17 Emerging glass artists from Japan will exhibit work in PGC's first international exhibition curated by Harumi Yukutake and Tomoko Aoki. www.pittsburghglasscenter.org

Through October 21, 2007

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371 www.cmog.org "Curiosities of Glassmaking"

Through November 25, 2007

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371 www.cmog.org "Botanical Wonders: The Story of the Harvard Glass Flowers"

Through January 6, 2008

WHEATON ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ 08332 (800) 998-4552 www.wheatonarts.org "Celebrating Connections: Contemporary Glass by Mid Atlantic Artists" An invitational exhibition which showcases the art-

work of glass artists living in the Mid-Atlantic region. 60 artists will exhibit work created in past 3 years.

June 13 - 16, 2007

36th HEISEY NATIONAL CONVENTION & Elegant Glass Show to be held at the National Heisey Glass Museum 169 W. Church St., Newark, OH (740) 345-2932

www.heiseymuseum.org

June 23 & 24, 2007

WHEATON ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ 08332 (800) 998-4552 www.wheatonarts.org "Marble Weekend" Over 75 marble dealers, craftspeople and artists from around the country will sell and exhibit vintage marbles, marble games and related memorabilia. There will be live glass making demonstrations from both the tank and torch.

July 6 - 8, 2007

THE HOT GLASS ROADSHOW sponsored by the Corning Museum of Glass at the Dane Gallery 28 Centre Street, Nantucket, MA 02554 (508) 228-7779 www.danegallery.com The Dane Gallery is located on the island of Nantucket, 30 miles off the coast of Cape Cod, MA. The gallery represents leading artists in contemporary glass, ceramics, basketry & wood. Founded in 1996, the gallery features the glass sculpture and glassware of Robert Dane, who maintains a studio in the hills of western MA. In addition to Dane's work, the gallery also represents artists such as Dale Chihuly, Toots Zynsky, Paul Stankard, Daniel Clayman, Marc Petrovic, Bennett Bean, Steven Weinberg and Sidney Hutter.

July 13 - 15, 2007

WHEATON ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ 08332 (800) 998-4552 www.wheatonarts.org "GlassWeekend '07: An International Symposium & Exhibition of Contemporary Glass" 20 internationally respected art galleries present the most current work of professional glass artists.

July 15 - 17, 2007

THE AMERICAN CUT GLASS ASSOCIATION "Cut Glass and the Great Outdoors" This year's convention includes a dealer show with 9,000 sq. ft. of outstanding American Brilliant Cut Glass, outstanding speakers,

convention activities which includes a collectors night sale, truly makes a convention not to be missed. Visit www.cutglass.org or write Kathy Emmerson, Executive Secretary, PO Box 482 Ramona, CA 92065-0482.

September 13 - 15, 2007

CARDER STEUBEN CLUB "Shared Desires: A Unity of Glass and Metal" Corning Museum of Glass, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371 www.cmog.org The symposium, presented by the Carder Steuben Club will explore the artistry and history of pieces created by Devillbiss perfumes, Roycroft Copper craftsmen, Crest Lamps, FrankArt, Art Lamp, Oscar Bach and others. The event will showcase the artistry achieved by early 20th century metal craftsmen who combined their pieces with Carder Steuben glass. To receive the program itinerary or to register for this event, contact Alan Shovers at (812) 423-3183 or ashovers@kddk.com. www.carder-steubenclub.com

September 15 & 16, 2007

The SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM www.sandwichglassmuseum.org The 20th Annual Cape Cod Glass Show & Sale will be held at the Skylight Room of the Corpus Christi Church in Sandwich, MA. The Corpus Christi Church is located just off exit 3 on Quaker Meeting House Road. Forty-five 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.

October 20 & 21, 2006

HISTORICAL HOT GLASS WORKSHOP, 6411 Fall Clove Rd., DeLancey, NY 13752 (845) 676-4622; artlindareed@catskill.net Sweetwater Glass presents a demonstration workshop on 19th Century Glassblowing Techniques & Technology. Learn pillar molded, blown three mold, threading, and applied handles techniques. Call for registration details. www.sweetwaterglass.com

Venician Glass at Carnegie Museum

Viva Vetro! Glass Alive! Venice and America on now through September 16, 2007 at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, PA.

Venice has been a preeminent glass center since the 16th century. European factories and designers for centuries have emulated the city's success by adapting or copying designs associated with the

Venetian masters. In the second half of the 20th century, American artists and designers also started looking to Venice for inspiration, many of them traveling to Venice to work directly with the masters in the factories.

These Americans returned to the States and invigorated the country's rapidly growing and flourishing studio glass movement. This flourishing interest in the art of glassmaking prompted Venetian masters to travel to the United States to teach and also to learn. Venice instilled in the Americans discipline, technical skills, and a new appreciation for color. America gave the Venetians the freedom to challenge and to question.

This exhibition, part of Pittsburgh's 2007 Year of Glass celebration, will

examine the links between Venice and America and their significance, from mid-1950s sculptor Robert Willson's exploratory visit to Murano and the commissioning of work from American designers by the Venini factory to



present-day artists, such as Lino Tagliapietra and Josiah McElheny. The exhibition will present approximately 100 works, which will also be illustrated in the accompanying catalogue.

A richly illustrated publication accompanies *Viva Vetro! Glass Alive!* Along with 123 magnificent color plates of works in the show, the 204-page publication contains essays by Susanne K. Frantz, independent curator and former curator of contemporary glass at the Corning Museum of Glass and contemporary art critic Matthew Kangas. Published by Carnegie Museum of Art, the soft-cover catalogue is available in the Carnegie Museum of Art Store for \$29.95 or through the museum website, www.cmoa.org. Museum of Art, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (412) 622-3131.

Corning Seminar 2007

From fanciful dragons to Tiffany flowers, the 46th Annual Seminar on Glass at The Corning Museum of Glass, taking place October 11-13, 2007, will explore the wonders of nature reflected in glass. Experts on glass, including curators from the Museum, will present lectures on a variety of topics. The Blaschkas' incredibly delicate and realistic botanical and sea creature models exhibited in the Museum's major summer exhibition, "*Botanical Wonders*," will be a special focus.

Besides exploring the Blaschkas' work, lectures will also include naturalism and Art Nouveau, and reflections of nature in contemporary glass. In addition to a series of expert lectures, participants will

have opportunities to make their own glass, observe historical flameworking demonstrations, and see contemporary artists giving demonstrations in The Studio.

Speakers will include Scott Fulton, conservator, Harvard's Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology; Paul Greenhalgh, of Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art & Design; Lindsay R. Parrott, collections manager and associate curator, Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass; and Susan Rossi-Wilcox, curatorial associate and administrator for the Glass Flowers Collection, Harvard University. Contact Louise Maio at (607) 974-4084 for more details about the event.

NAGC Annual Seminar: A Stunning Success

A new glass pavilion at The Toledo Museum of Art! Visits to spectacular private glass collections! Lectures by the country's leading glass authorities! Excursions to see the delightful Fostoria and Tiffin Glass Museums! What more could a glass collector ask for, except possibly buying opportunities at an extensive antiques mall full of interesting (and sometimes underpriced) items? Well, we had that too!

The club's 23rd National Glass Seminar, which took place in Toledo on May 9th-12th, was a memorable and thoroughly enjoyable event. We kicked off with a visit to a private collection in Birmingham, MI, where we were "wowed" with masterpieces ranging from 18th century Tassie medallions to contemporary glass sculptures by Dominick Labino. Between these poles we were treated to rarities in Pittsburgh and Sandwich glass, engraved pieces by famed New England Glass Company engraver Louis Vaupel, stunning examples of Tiffany, Steuben and Durand, beautiful rich cut glass, and so much more. This visit was followed by a stop in Utica, MI, to see one of the most extensive private collections of Steuben glass in the country. Simply breathtaking!

As the featured highlight of the seminar, Toledo's new glass pavilion couldn't fail to impress. Imagine the glass treasures of one of



the country's leading art museums arranged in a building whose walls, both interior and exterior, are made entirely of glass. It was, as the title of the museum's new catalog suggests, a wonderful celebration of "*Glass in Glass*."

Lectures by Tim Novak, Jutta-Anette Page, Kelly Conway, Julie A. McMaster and Kimberly Brownlee enlightened us, visits to the Fostoria and Tiffin Glass Museums inspired us, a sumptuous banquet and silent auction entertained us, and the companionship of friends and colleagues enfolded us. Let's do it again next year in Boston for our 75th anniversary!

kindly submitted by former NAGC president Kirk Nelson

Spectacular Glass at Julia's Auction

A Major Glass & Lamp Auction at James D. Julia, Inc. runs the gamut of prehistoric to contemporary this June 29 & 30. Sales Coordinator Dudley Browne has once again assembled a tremendously diverse sale of over 1,000 lots ranging from ancient Roman glass to exceptional contemporary glass, and everything in between.

The upcoming auction boasts one of the largest selections of lamps to hit the market in recent memory.



Included will be over 80 examples

by Tiffany, Handel, Pairpoint,

Duffner & Kimberly,

Loetz, and more.

Joining the fray will be a fine grouping of rare

French cameo glass. Examples

include Gallé, Daum, Burgun &

Schwerer, Le Verre Français, and Schneider to name a few.

Of the over 80 lamps, a stellar stand-out is a fabulous Tiffany Studios Sunset Tulip lamp. It has an overall pattern of tulips in various stages of bloom in warm and vibrant oranges and yellows against a background of variegated green foliage and confetti glass. This beautiful shade rests on a three arm turn base accented by five Art Nouveau columns. Simply stunning, it carries a presale estimate of \$30,000/40,000. The auction continues with a vast array of rare French cameo glass that includes works by several of the world's most recognized and sought after names. A trio of Gallé blownout vases would complement any collection. A plum pattern vase in greens and browns over a frosted background carries an estimate of \$10,000/15,000.

The vast assortment of French cameo glass also includes numerous early Gallé enameled pieces as

well as marvelous works by Daum, Burgun & Schwerer, Le Verre Français, Schneider, and more. A spectacular and rare monumental Daum vase depicting cameo and enameled seagulls situated against a setting sun carries an \$8,000/12,000 estimate. A Daum Nancy cameo wheel-carved and enamel vase with decorations of mushrooms and pinecones on a shaded and mottled yellow, orange, and mauve background comes in with a \$15,000/20,000 estimate.

Steuben also will be well represented. The offering centers on two extremely fine flower form vases from the same collection. The first is an iridescent gold Aurene "Millefiori" vase with green heart and vine decoration with white millefiori florets and applied gold Aurene foot, and is topped with a ruffled rim. The second is similar in decoration but has a rounded bowl and flared rim. The two are expected to sell for \$12,000/15,000 and \$10,000/12,000 respectively. A spectacular blue Aurene shouldered vase adorned with leaf and vine decoration carries an estimate of \$8,000/12,000. Included will be a fabulous collection of very rare Mt. Washington decorated Burmese including two wonderful verse vases. A monumental Mt. Washington Royal Flemish covered temple jar, decorated with images of a young girl and griffin shields, and finished with allover decoration and an applied rope handle is a wonder to behold. And jumping ahead over



Tulip Lamp by L.C. Tiffany

a century brings us to an excellent grouping of contemporary artist glass including works by Dale Chihuly and Lino Tagliapietra. Full-color catalogs are available for \$39 by mail. PO Box 830, Fairfield, ME 04937 www.juliaauctions.com (207) 453-7125.

Mt. Washington Pairpoint Glass Society

The annual glass seminar of the Mt. Washington & Pairpoint Glass Society will convene at College Station, TX on October 18-20 this Fall (2007). Though this is our second visit to Texas A & M there are always new additions to the Runyon and other collections which need to be seen and admired by glass collectors everywhere. Being the home of the American Cut Glass Association allows the viewer a chance to come into contact with rarities as well as unusual and complex cuttings and designs.

The Bill and Irma Runyon collection is not to be missed, nor denied its place as one of the major glass collections in the world. If you have not seen it, run, do not walk and head for College Station! The Cameo glass housed therein represents one of the world's most extraordinary collections of English cameo glass. Over 1100 American and English glass objects are represented.

The Bluebonnet Chapter of the Paperweight Collector's Association presents artistic creations to boggle the mind. Be sure to look for the sulphides. You will not be bored – we promise. This seminar promises to be an exciting one. We urge you to make your reservations early – only five months away. Registration Forms are enclosed and others will reach you in late summer.

College Station is a University town and there are many opportunities to recharge our minds – for one, there is the Cushing Memorial Library, a repository for rare books, maps, manuscripts, photographs, ephemera and other interesting artifacts. The George Bush Presidential Library on 90 acres offers the history of the times, the demise of communism, and development of a new world order. The gifts are fascinating – lots of gold and/or silver golf clubs.

Speakers honoring our podium are Jane Spillman, Dr. Joe Heyman, Tim Novak, Kirk Nelson and Edward Poore. We do plan to dine in the galleries at the closing banquet Lunches will be at the Forsyth Center, our central meeting place. We hope to see you there. This represents a most delightful diversion and you will love strolling around the campus.

For more information: Carmen Freeman (941) 966-4406, carmen.freeman@verizon.net or Dr. David Fuchshuber (817) 457-3246, mwagdf@aol.com

Research, Publication & Glass News

Vintage Steuben on Sale



Rosaline Pitcher with Alabaster Handle

At Steuben's New York City Flagship Store, 667 Madison Ave., is a rarely available selection of pre-1933 Steuben art glass and tableware designed by founder Frederick Carder and made by hand at the Steuben factory in Corning, NY.

The current group includes examples of perfume bottles, Cobalt Blue, Rosaline and Iyrene glass named for their distinctive colors and highly popular in the 1920s.

Each piece has been authenticated by a foremost expert on Carder-era Steuben and is an individual offering, subject to prior sale. 800-424-4240 <http://steuben.com>

New Curator of Glass Needed

The Chrysler Museum of Art seeks an experienced and energetic individual to manage, grow, display, and interpret one of America's finest and most comprehensive glass collections.

Responsibilities include working with colleagues and collectors to refine and expand the collection; leadership of a full scale reinstallation of the ten museum galleries devoted to the collection; research, cataloguing, and publication focused on collection objects; and the development and coordination of an active program of special exhibitions devoted to contemporary and historical glass.

Requirements: MA in art history (Ph.D. preferred) with a specialization in glass or the decorative arts. Minimum of five years of relevant curatorial experience. Must be well organized, highly motivated, focused and goal oriented, eager to work as a colleague in a highly

collaborative environment. Must enjoy interacting with a diverse public. Competitive salary and excellent benefits.

About the Chrysler Museum:

Located in Norfolk, VA, the Chrysler Museum is one of America's great medium-sized art museums. With a collection of 30,000 objects, a staff of 102, and an annual operating budget of \$6.5 million, the Museum is the principle cultural resource for a regional community of 1.5 million people at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay.

To apply:

Applications, including curriculum vitae and cover letter, should be submitted to the Human Resources Department, Chrysler Museum of Art, 245 West Olney Road, Norfolk, VA 23510 or to HR@chrysler.org www.chrysler.org

A Memorial Gift has been received from
Greater Chicago Area Glass Club
in memory of Larry Powers

SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

DEADLINE
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September 1, 2007. 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