

# Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

[www.glassclub.org](http://www.glassclub.org)

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Summer 2012

## Corning's New Light-filled Contemporary Gallery & Live Glassmaking Spaces

The Corning Museum of Glass has unveiled the preliminary design for an expansion that will create a new North Wing, featuring light-filled galleries for its collection of contemporary works in glass, as well as one of the world's largest facilities for glassblowing demonstrations and live glass design sessions.

Designed by architect Thomas Phifer and Partners, the 100,000-square-foot expansion will dramatically enhance the visitor experience for the Museum's growing domestic and international audiences. The \$64 million project—fully funded before groundbreaking by major benefactor Corning Incorporated—is scheduled for completion in 2014.

"We are the world's leading art museum dedicated to glass," said Karol Wight, executive director of The Corning Museum of Glass. "Over the past decade, we've experienced tremendous growth: in our collections; in our increasingly diverse audiences; and in the breadth and ambition of our public programs, especially those that allow visitors to experience the energy of artists and designers at work. This is a transformative design that responds to those demands and further enables us to bring glass to life for the 400,000 people who visit our campus each year."

Phifer's design creates 26,000 square feet of gallery space specifically engineered to showcase the Museum's growing collections of large-scale contemporary works of art and design in glass. The new gallery building—which will be the largest space anywhere dedicated to the presentation of contemporary art in glass—will feature filtered natural daylight using a sophisticated light-filtering system. The wing will also accommodate a new temporary exhibition gallery devoted exclusively to contemporary art and design.

"Contemporary glass loves light, especially natural light, and space," said Tina Oldknow, the Museum's curator of modern glass. "The new daylighting system represents a dramatic change in how contemporary works in glass are viewed, and the Museum's monumental sculptures will have an exhibition space appropriate to their size. This is the first large-scale presentation of contemporary glass that takes advantage of natural light."

The design also includes an innovative renovation of the iconic ventila-



tor building of the former Steuben Glass factory, which is adjacent to the Museum's current building. The renovation provides a new venue for the Museum's signature live glassmaking presentations. The new glassmaking space will accommodate 500 people through retractable banked seating, as well as a gallery-level balcony running around the perimeter of the venue and offering 360-degree views of the glassmaking below.

The new energy-smart hotshop will support daily demonstrations, guest artists, and glass design sessions. Phifer's design exposes the beauty of the historic ventilator structure by stripping the façade down to its lightweight frame and restoring the use of glass on both the north and south walls.

The contemporary gallery façade

will be made of white aluminum, with perpendicular blades of ultra-thin specialty glass. Inside, visitors will encounter soaring, light-filled spaces as they move seamlessly from the admissions lobby, through the contemporary galleries, and into the new glassmaking demonstration venue. The new North Wing will juxtapose the clean white aluminum and glass façade of the new contemporary gallery building with the black exterior of the restored ventilator building.

The Museum is also working with landscape architecture firm Reed Hilderbrand Associates to design new outdoor gathering areas for the public, including a 1-acre campus green that will provide views into the luminous new gallery and glassmaking spaces. The green will be defined by the 1951 Harrison & Abramowitz Corning Incorporated building on the north side and, on the south side, by the Museum's 2001 Smith-Miller + Hawkinson façade and new North Wing designed by Thomas Phifer and Partners.

A 150-foot-long window wall on the façade of the contemporary gallery building will provide views out to the campus green and into the galleries, unifying the indoor and outdoor experience. The glassmaking space will open up to outdoor areas to allow for indoor/outdoor programs, and the transparent façades will animate the new campus green and existing Museum courtyard with the glassmaking activity inside.

"For us, learning the way light and glass work together has been truly rewarding. Glass is performance art...from its fluidity to the way it scatters light in space. We are making spaces to put people in touch with the magic of glass," Phifer said.

Corning Museum of Glass, One Museum Way, Corning, NY (800) 732-6845 [www.cmog.org](http://www.cmog.org)

## President's Letter

Dear Friends,

The 28<sup>th</sup> annual NAGC Seminar in Harrisonburg, VA is now history. Thanks to the planning assistance and generous hospitality of our local hosts Beverley and Jeff Evans, the gathering was a resounding success. The 66 members and guests attending the Seminar enjoyed beautiful weather and the opportunity to socialize.

A special treat for those participating was the reception at the Sites House, Beverley and Jeff's home, and the opportunity to view and discuss their extensive collection of American glass and Shenandoah Valley decorative arts. Following the Seminar some of us attended the auction of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century glass and lighting at Jeff's gallery, while others took the opportunity to do some additional local sightseeing.

Our appreciation for the success of the Seminar is also due to Seminar Liaison Ellen O'Brien and Treasurer John Kohut. Those members attending the annual meeting approved the Providence/Newport, RI area for the 2013 Seminar, and Ellen has already begun planning for this event. She would welcome your suggestions for potential speakers and local sightseeing tours that would be of interest to our members.

Chairman of the Nominating Committee Mary Cheek Mills announced the election results, and we are happy to welcome new Director Kevin Sives of Apalachin, NY and Directors Kelly Conway and Ellen O'Brien, who are both staying on for second terms. Mary and I want to stress the need for your assistance in the search for capable and interested members willing to serve as NAGC officers and directors. With the exception of the Secretary, in 2013 we will need to elect an entirely new slate of officers and three directors. This will be a significant transition, and we want it to go as smoothly as possible.

In another project that Mary undertook at the request of the NAGC Board, this year we honored Doug Reed and Nancy and Bill Sheriff under the Distinguished Member Recognition Program (DMRP). We have been privileged to be the beneficiaries of many years of service by these outstanding members. Although we offered scholarships to the 2012 Seminar under the DMRP and through a donation from the Amelung

Chapter in honor of members Dorothy Camp and Barbara Lessig, we had no applicants. The Board has approved an alternative proposal Mary has made to honor these members by using the DMRP funds to assist in paying the expenses of a suitable glass research project being conducted by one or more graduate students (costs of copying, photography, etc.). I will be contacting the Amelung Chapter to suggest this alternative, and if they approve, their donation will be added to the funds NAGC provides.

Plans for holding the 2014 Mega-Glass Convention in Corning, NY have been changed. Consideration is now being given to holding the Convention in Indianapolis, IN or some other suitable location. We support the efforts to continue this joint event. Best wishes for an enjoyable summer with plenty of glass-related experiences.

*Ken Depew, President*

## Huntington Museum of Art

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of studio glass art in America is being observed in 2012. To celebrate this milestone and recognize talented artists, the Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass (AACG), a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to further the development and appreciation of art made from glass, has initiated more than 100 glass demonstrations, lectures and exhibitions that will take place in museums, galleries and art centers across the country throughout 2012. The Huntington Museum of Art will participate in this celebration with a small exhibit on now through November 18, 2012 in the Museum's Glass Gallery of six early glass sculptures by Harvey Littleton from the Museum's permanent collection.

The American Studio Glass movement began with two glass workshops held at the Toledo Museum of Art in 1962. The workshops were taught by Harvey K. Littleton, who, along with scientist Dominick Labino, introduced a small furnace built for glassworking that made it possible for individual artists to work in independent studios. Glass programs were then established by Littleton at the University of Wisconsin, at the California College of the Arts by Marvin Lipofsky, and later at the

Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), led by artist Dale Chihuly, to name but a few.

To learn more about the observations of the 50<sup>th</sup>



*Opportunity Trap, 1970 by Harvey K. Littleton*

anniversary of studio glass art in America, visit <http://contempglass.org/2012-celebration>  
The Huntington Museum of Art,  
2033 McCoy Road, Huntington, WV  
25701 (304) 529-2701  
<http://www.hmoa.org>

# Glass Calendar

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

## Through July 15, 2012

The SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM is pleased to present a special exhibit entitled *Pressing Business – The Glass Industry in South Boston*. South Boston was once home to 25 different glassmaking firms. On display is one of the largest assembled collections of products made in South Boston from window glass to tableware, the glass industry fulfilled a pressing need for our new nation providing its citizenry with objects of necessity. Discover the history of these little known glassmaking firms at the Sandwich Glass Museum's special exhibition, *Pressing Business*. Guest Curator Joan Kaiser, author of *The Glass Industry in South Boston*, will provide her keen insight into this often overlooked fact of American glassmaking. This special exhibit is free with admission. (508) 888-0251 or visit [www.sandwichglassmuseum.org](http://www.sandwichglassmuseum.org)

## Through September 3, 2012

FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM  
455 Oak Street, Brockton, MA 02301  
(508) 588-6000 <http://fullercraft.org>  
*Dan Dailey: Working Method* is an exhibition with a focus on significant works from twelve different series, including the original sketches and full scale drawings for the works exhibited by glass artist Dan Dailey. Dailey, the first graduate student of Dale Chihuly, has pursued his own unique voice in glass, from his singular work in antique Vitrolite sheet glass to complex constructions of blown glass and metal. By pairing each work with the very drawings and models used in planning and production, as well as images and video of Dailey and his team at work, this exhibition endeavors to pull back the curtain on the incredible choreography of technique and vision that make contemporary glass one of the most demanding, exciting, and unparalleled art forms today.

## Through November 7, 2012

ALEXANDER TUTSEK-STIFTUNG, Karl-Theodor-Straße 27, 80803 München, Germany *In the Name of Love*. Love was and is one of the principal themes in art. Humans have a need to express love, and the pain of love, in a tangible form. Literature, music, paintings and

sculptures created over the centuries are testimony of their never-ending attempts. The exhibition at the Alexander Tutsek Foundation deals with the many facets of love from a very special perspective: not only the bright, the welcome part of love is explored, but so is its hidden, secretive, and dark side. And all this is expressed using a material that is seldom seen in art displays. On show are 30 objects created by 26 artists from around the world who work mainly with glass and mixed media. <http://www.atutsek-stiftung.de/en/ausstellungen.html>

## Through January 6, 2013

CORNING MUSEUM of GLASS  
*Founders of American Studio Glass*  
Harvey K. Littleton In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in 2012, of the "birth" of the American Studio Glass movement, this exhibition features works by one of the founders of the movement, Harvey K. Littleton. The objects on display - 19 vessels and sculptures and five vitreographs - span the arc of Littleton's career in glass from the 1960s through the 1980s. One Museum Way, Corning, NY (800) 732-6845 [www.cmog.org](http://www.cmog.org)

## June 21 & 24, 2012

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS INC Glass Show & Sale. Pritchard Laughlin Civic Ctr., Cambridge, OH [cambridgeglass.org](http://cambridgeglass.org)  
Featuring Cambridge and other fine glassware including Heisey, Imperial, Fenton, Duncan, Tiffin and Westmoreland. [www.cambridgeglass.org](http://www.cambridgeglass.org)

## July 14, 2012 - January 6, 2013

MUSEUM OF GLASS *MAESTRO: Recent Works by Lino Tagliapietra*  
The Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock St. Tacoma, WA 98402-3217 (866) 468-7386 [museumofglass.org](http://museumofglass.org)

## August 21 - 24, 2012

2012 AMERICAN CUT GLASS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONVENTION The convention will have seven speakers, silent auction, door prizes, Dealer Show with spectacular glass for sale, and interaction with *Brilliant glass people*. Hotel rates of \$99 per night good from Aug. 15-29. There's lots to do in San Diego so join us for some *California Dreamin'* Sun, Sand, Surf and Sparkle. There will be a pre-convention Tour of San Diego area on Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. San Diego Marriott Mission Valley 8757 Rio San

Diego Drive, San Diego, CA 92108. Hotel (619) 692-3800, for reservations (800) 228-9290. For rules and restrictions for the convention visit the ACGA website at [www.cutglass.org](http://www.cutglass.org) or contact Judy Manginella at [judyuem@cox.net](mailto:judyuem@cox.net)

Make your reservations today

## September 15 & 16, 2012

The Sandwich Glass Museum will host its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual CAPE COD ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE GLASS SHOW & SALE at St. Theresa's Hall, Corpus Christi Church, located at 324 Quaker Meetinghouse Road, East Sandwich, MA, 02537 - Exit 3 off Route 6. Nationally-prominent glass dealers will offer unique antique and collectible American and European glassware from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Visitors will have the opportunity to see, examine and acquire glass of practically every age and description. Come and learn about the Cape Cod Glass Club. Meet the dealers and discuss all aspects of glass collecting. Free Glass Identification will be available to glass show patrons. Reference books on glass available.

## October 18 - 20, 2012

51<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL SEMINAR ON GLASS, Corning Museum of Glass, One Museum Way, Corning, NY (800) 732-6845 [www.cmog.org](http://www.cmog.org)  
Join colleagues from around the world as we continue the year-long celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American studio glass. Guest speakers James Carpenter, Martha Drexler Lynn, Paul Marioni, Ginny Ruffner, Durk Valkema, William Warmus, and Toots Zynsky will each share a unique perspective on the history of studio glass. A special panel of collectors and gallerists will join curators Jane Adlin and Tina Oldknow in a discussion about the early days of collecting and selling American studio glass. Italian maestro Lino Tagliapietra, who influenced the careers of many American artists working in glass, will be making work at The Studio and he will give a special glassblowing demonstration for Seminararians.

## 2012 NAGC Seminar

Delightful weather, good fellowship and amazing glass seemed to be the consensus opinion of participants in the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual NAGC Seminar held in Harrisonburg, VA May 16-18. On May 16 enthusiastic participants

gathered for the Seminar traveled by bus from our hotel in Harrisonburg to the historic city of Staunton, founded in 1747, and known for its significant architecture (as well as its notable watering can and flowerpot sculptures). Following a glassblowing demonstration at Sunspots Studio, we all had the chance for a leisurely lunch and exploratory stroll

through the town and its shops, including the 1903 bank building with its domed stained glass skylight by the Kokomo Glass Co. After lunch we enjoyed a short lecture on and tour of Trinity Episcopal Church, the oldest church in Staunton, and its 12 Tiffany stained glass windows. The day of sightseeing closed with a visit to Rocky's Antique Mall, where those who didn't buy enjoyed the opportunity to look.

Thursday activities began with an early morning bus departure for Monticello, home of our third president, Thomas Jefferson. After enjoying Monticello, we made a stop for a substantial lunch at historic Michie Tavern, and then proceeded on to Ash Lawn-

Highland for a tour of the home of our fifth president James Monroe. We made a brief stop at the Rolling Hills Antique

Mall in Harrisonburg, before the day culminated with what many felt was

the highlight of the Seminar—the reception held at the Sites House, home of Jeff and Beverley Evans, where we were privileged to tour their amazing collection of glass and Shenandoah Valley decorative arts.



On Friday we had a change of pace with a day of educational lectures at the Jeff Evans auction gallery and a gallery walk with Jeff to view and discuss the glass to be sold in his Saturday auction. The lecturers included Jane Spillman, who spoke on "Glass in the American Home," Dean Six on "Trade Catalogs and the Commerce of American Glass," Jeff Evans on "The History of Glass Collecting in America," and Art Reed (who brought an exceptional display of



tools and glass) on "Glass Making in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America." After the Annual Meeting, the Seminar concluded with a banquet at Panos Restaurant.

On Saturday, before returning to our homes and reluctant to let our enjoyment of our Seminar experiences fade too quickly, some of us attended the Evans catalogued auction of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century glass and lighting, some went to the Shenandoah Antiques Expo in Fishersville, VA and some took the opportunity to do additional local sightseeing.

## Borowsky Donation

A \$500,000 gift from University of the Arts Trustee Irvin J. Borowsky and his wife, Laurie Wagman, will enable the University of the Arts to establish the *Irvin Borowsky Prize in Glass Art* and the *Irvin Borowsky Center for Glass Arts*.

The Irvin Borowsky Prize in Glass Art will be given annually to a glass artist whose vision and skills are advancing contemporary glass art. The artist selected will be invited to give a special lecture to the University community.

The portion of the gift dedicated to the Borowsky Center for Glass Arts will help to create a new craft center at the university, expanding the University's glass facilities and its capacity to promote the study of the historical and contemporary significance of glass art. The new 3,700 square-foot facility will include a dedicated space for exhibitions and installations as well as hot and cold shops with multiple furnaces and work areas.

"This extraordinary gift will enable the University of the Arts to develop one of the premier centers for glassmaking and study in the region," said Sean Buffington, president of the University of the Arts. "The Borowsky Center for Glass Arts will be the cornerstone of our re-imagined and enhanced crafts studio spaces. It honors the University's 130 years of leadership in teaching craft artists, and will help us to continue shaping the future of these disciplines."

The University is taking further steps to enhance and expand its glass programs. Following a national search, it has named glass artist Alexander Rosenberg to lead the glass program and to create the first Glass major in the University's history.

The University of the Arts ([www.uarts.edu](http://www.uarts.edu)) is one of the only universities in the United States dedicated solely to educating creative individuals in the visual and performing arts and design. Its more than 2,100 students are enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs in six fields of study -- Visual Arts, Design, Film, Music, Dance and Theater -- on its campus in the heart of Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. The institution's roots as a leader in educating creative individuals date back to 1868 320 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102 (800) 616-2787

## Museum of Glass Visting Artists Series

Museum of Glass Presents Eleventh Annual Visiting Artists Summer Series presented in conjunction with Pilchuck Glass School. 1801 Dock Street Tacoma, WA 98402 [www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org) 1-866-4MU-SEUM The Museum will host fourteen artists over thirteen weeks during the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Visiting Artists Summer Series. Beginning this month, a different artist will be featured for a five-day artist residency each week through Labor Day weekend.

Each summer, the Museum invites emerging, established, and internationally-renowned artists to the Hot Shop to experiment, innovate and create with molten glass. The artists work with the Museum's Hot Shop Team, exploring and demonstrating various glassmaking techniques and styles. Some of these artists use glass as their primary medium while others look to the Hot Shop Team for the technical expertise to translate their designs into glass.

The 2012 Summer Series marks the tenth year of collaboration between the Museum of Glass and Pilchuck Glass School. This partnership allows artists who are coming to the Pacific Northwest to work or teach at Pilchuck to extend their stay for an additional week. "We are fortunate to have so many organizations in the region that promote glass as an art form and foster the Studio Glass movement," comments Museum of Glass executive director Susan Warner. "By pooling our resources, we can present a very attractive experience for the artists who participate in our programs and also provide our patrons with exposure to some of the most exciting happenings in contemporary art."

"The 2012 Visiting Artists Summer Series also coincides with the Museum's 10th Anniversary," continues Warner. "In the coming months, we have invited back some of our earli-

est Visiting Artists from 2002 and 2003. Gronk and Cappy Thompson are two of these artists, and their residencies will take place during the Summer Series. Watch for more familiar faces this fall as well!"

Glass enthusiasts can also experi-

ence the action in the Hot Shop remotely. During Museum hours, the Museum website broadcasts footage of the artists working live via streaming video, extending

visitors' Hot Shop experience with a sneak peek before they arrive and contin-

uation of the work after they leave. Online viewers can also submit questions electronically to the Hot Shop emcee who will answer them over the live feed.

Learn more about each Visiting Artist: <http://www.museumofglass.org/glassmaking/visiting-artists>



**Toronto glass artist Sally McCubbin creates gorgeous glass confections -- both useful, like the mortar and pestle sets above, and whimsical -- in irresistible candy colors.**

## NAGC Founders' Chapter & Josh Simpson

On April 25, 28 members and friends of the Founders Chapter (Boston) of the NAGC spent a wonderful day together on a very special trip to Western Massachusetts to visit world-renowned glass artist Josh Simpson and his crew in his studio. Josh gave us a complete tour of his space, starting with his large, red, barn, the main reason he had bought the property years ago.

We moved on to see glass rods in the full spectrum of colors, and then had an overview, literally, of the main workspace. After we descended the stairs to the shop floor, he gave a complete tour of the polishing, shipping, pulling and other ancillary spaces they use. We saw the so-called "quiet room", used for thinking; it was filled with drawer upon drawer of treasures. Before and after lunch, Josh and his colleagues gave demonstrations of glass magic; we were all mesmerized. They had set up chairs for us, some of us sitting about three feet from the glory hole and "toaster oven", and the path to the annealing ovens was directly through our seats! What a thrill! During lunch, Josh and his wife, astronaut and space station veteran Cady Coleman, moved around the room chatting with all of us.

After our thorough visit to the studio, we met Josh at Salmon Falls Artisans Gallery in Shelburne Falls, which sells his work as well as that of other talented crafters in a variety of media. The Gallery offered us wine and cheese, and Josh kindly autographed items and explained his collaboration with different people on particular pieces. As we rode back to Boston, we all commented on how personable, forthcoming, and welcoming Josh had been. It truly was

an unforgettable day. *Thank you, Josh Simpson!*

Kindly submitted by Peggy Hooper, Founders' Chapter President



**Glass Artist Josh Simpson**

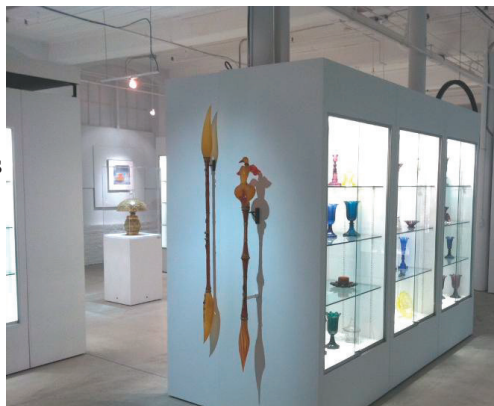
## Research, Publication & Glass News

### New Bedford Museum of Glass

After three years of dedicated effort, the New Bedford Museum of Glass has become a reality! Fifty monumental display cabinets stand proudly, a final coat of paint glistens, and track lighting shines down with delicate precision. The galleries are filled with beautiful glass and the research library door is open. Now we need your help with some spring cleaning.

Remarkably, only \$6,500 of gallery renovation expense remains unpaid. As the new museum works to get established, it is important for us to raise this amount and enter the summer season with a clean slate. Please help with your tax-deductible contribution!

Newly installed track lighting illuminates the galleries, including examples from the Michael B. Rukin bequest of contemporary glass. In the past month more than a dozen important sculptures by modern artists have found a new home at NBMOG! Please help to sustain this remarkable new museum!



“Ceremonial Spear” and “Kadzvoro Bird Staff” sculptures by Seattle artists Jenny Pohlman and Sabrina Knowles. Bequest of Michael B. Rukin

**Goal:** To raise \$6,500

**Deadline:** September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**How You Can Help:** Visit our Fundraising Page and make a contribution!

All donors will receive special recognition on our website. Donors of \$500 or more will be honored with a display case commemorative plaque.

*You can make a difference!*

The New Bedford Museum of Glass, 61 Wamsutta St., New Bedford, MA 02740 (617) 984-1666 [nbmog.org](http://nbmog.org)

### Oklahoma City of Art

Organized by the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, 415 Couch Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73102 [www.okc-moa.com](http://www.okc-moa.com) *FUSION [A New Century of Glass]* will feature 47 works from the twenty-first century that embrace the diversity and depth of the human experience. This profound and thought-provoking exhibition will include examples by 20 contemporary artists working nationally and internationally who have engaged the medium of glass. The objects reflect a range of subject matter and style and relate to concerns of the present day. Artists explore themes of social isolationism, paranoia, the passage of time, and also address the impact of technology on humanity and the environment, while exploring the dichotomy of utopian ideals and the realities of modern daily existence. The safety and sacredness of the home, family life, gender roles, and interpersonal relationships are also questioned. Artists offer a new context for historical models and art forms, contrasting the inherent beauty and intrigue of glass with the artists' introspective and personal approaches to the medium.

First Class

SEPTMBER 1, 2012  
DEADLINE  
NEXT ISSUE'S

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

1st Class Presort  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Binghamton NY  
Permit 197

**ATTENTION READERS!**  
The next deadline for the Glass Shards will be  
September 1, 2012. Submit by mail to:  
Alice Saville, Editor, Glass Shards, PO Box 255  
Foxborough, MA 02035  
or reach us through email at: [planetathecassaville@gmail.com](mailto:planetathecassaville@gmail.com)



The National  
American Glass Club  
Box 24  
Elkland, PA 16920

