

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Winter 2015

Chapter News

Founders Chapter

Meeting Summary, October 14, 2015

The Founders Chapter of the NAGC meets monthly at the Morse Institute Library in Natick, Massachusetts. For the meeting on October 14, the morning topic was “Children’s Toys and Whimsies,” with an emphasis on fall and Halloween. We all enjoyed the variety of objects that were presented, including some exceptional pieces that were fashioned by an engraver who had formerly worked for Steuben. Karen talked about meeting Steuben’s renowned master engraver, Max Er-lacher, and seeing some of his recent work at his studio near Corning, New York.

For the afternoon program, we viewed a video of Josh Simpson and his team making his 100-pound *Mega-planet*, which is the 1,000 paperweight in the collection of The Corning Museum of Glass!

We enjoyed a field trip to the Mark Twain House in Hartford, Connecticut, and a visit to a private collection of one of our members on November 11.

The December 9, 2016, meeting will consist of a silent auction, a catered lunch, and a talk by collector and member Louis Lopilato-Cartagena.

All are welcome to join us. For more information contact:

president@founderschapter.org

Westchester Glass Club

40th Annual Show and Sale

The Westchester Glass Club announced its 40th annual Collectors Glass Show and Sale to be held on April 9–10, 2016, again at the Greenwich Civic Center in Old Greenwich, Connecticut. To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the show and to attract new dealers and new buyers to the show, the Westchester Glass Club will offer free admission to all buyers this year.

The Westchester chapter of the National American Glass Club firmly believes that its primary purpose for the show is to educate people about the history and beauty of glass. And so, we want to encourage everyone to come to the show.

This year we expect an increase in the number of nationally-renowned dealers in glass and ceramics because of the earlier date of the show so as to avoid conflict with any other shows. The show will again offer glass and ceramics of all ages and types with emphasis on American-made glass.

To emphasize education, the show will continue to offer glass identification, displays by glass museums, a lecture by a glass authority, and an abiding and sincere effort by all dealers to answer questions and instruct the buyers about glass. One of the

wonderful traits of dealers at the Westchester Glass Show has always been their willingness to pass on their expert glass knowledge to those coming to the show to learn and buy. Additionally, glass repair will again be available, along with free parking and easy access, and sandwiches and light refreshment by a fabulous local deli.

Doug Reed, Show Manager Emeritus, who managed the show for nearly 30 years, continues to assist and advise the current show managers.

Dealer inquiries and further information can be obtained by contacting show managers Al Adams at (203) 394-8956 (Adams7562@att.net) or Jim Russell at (203) 438-1806 (jirussell9431@sbcglobal.net). Visit the WGC Web site, www.westchesterglassclub.com, for additional photos and show information.



Betsy and Jim Lessig at the Westchester Glass Club’s Collectors Show and Sale. Photo: Read Studios.

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

As 2015 comes to an end, I realize that this year I have marked off several items on my glass bucket list. The year began with a trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee to give a lecture at the Antique Show to benefit the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts. For me, it was a special trip because Chattanooga is where my maternal grandfather immigrated to in 1889 and worked his first 18 months in the United States. It was also a way to spend quality time with NAGC member Joanne Authenreith and her daughter-in-law, Amy Authenreith, Executive Director of the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts.

Some of you may have read the small publication titled the *The Fabulous Houston: A Museum of Fine Antiques, Chattanooga, Tennessee* by Robert W. Miller printed in 1971. Ever since reading this book, I have wanted to see the collection. The story of Anna Safley Houston and the antiques she amassed is more amazing than I could have imagined. Excellent examples of Tiffany art glass, including Amberina, Plated Amberina, cut glass, pressed glass, and hundreds of pitchers hanging from the ceiling are just part of the collection. Born in 1876 and married a documented nine times (with a possibility of two more), Anna Houston's life is an incredible story. But more importantly, through it all she collected remarkable glass, ceramics, furniture, prints, cast iron banks, pianos and much more. Upon her death in 1947, she left her collection to the citizens of Chattanooga for a museum. Although many of her important pieces were sold off at auction and sales, much of the proceeds were used to acquire a building to house her collection. The visit to see the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts and scenic historic Chattanooga is worth the trip.

In March, I drove to New York City to see the ancient Roman Ennion glass exhibit at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Having researched and written

about American glass mold making, viewing a grouping of the ancient mold-blown pieces by the Roman glassmaker Ennion was illuminating. Multiple examples of the iconic Ennion ewer were on exhibit including one without the dome foot illustrating the combining of mold-blown parts. Also in March was the opening of the new Contemporary Art + Design Wing at The Corning Museum of Glass. The massive diffused-lit space exhibits 70 pieces from the permanent collection and provides areas for large scale installations. One of the highlights of the wing is the new hot demo space.

By April, I was in Tacoma, Washington, for the Paperweight Collectors' Association bi-annual convention. As a member of the PCA Board, we chose the location of Tacoma because of the Museum of Glass and its hot glass studio besides the region's multitude of glass artists. The convention featured lectures, paperweight dealers, and artists' sales. Collaborative demonstrations were also organized, most notably a piece created by Dante Marioni and Mayael Ward. The city of Tacoma is full of glass by Dale Chihuly. One memorable part of the trip was the hotel chosen by the convention committee, The Murano Hotel, which features a lobby brimming with contemporary glass that ranges from a Karen LaMonte dress to hanging boats by Bertil Vallien. Each floor of the hotel is dedicated to an individual glass artist whose work is revealed as the elevator door opens. Artists include Martin Blank, Tobias Möhl, Jessica Townsend, Seth Randal, Janusz Walentynwicz, Dante Marioni, Susan Taylor Glasglow, Flo Perkins, and Toots Zynsky. The only disappointing part for me about the PCA convention was that the dates coincided with the Westchester Glass and Ceramics Show, causing me to miss that event.

In May, I visited the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, Virginia, to see the renovations and make arrangements for our May 2016 Seminar. Glass curator, Diane Wright, gave us a

personal tour of the redesigned and expanded glass wing. We will not be disappointed when we visit the Chrysler in 2016. The collection is one of the finest in the country and a personal favorite.

July was the month for the 2015 Mega-Convention in Indianapolis. I missed the previous Mega-Convention in Kansas City, so attending this year was a first for me. What a good time meeting other collectors, viewing club exhibits and hearing great speakers. NAGC members Jay Rogers and Jim Beverage did an incredible job organizing the entire event. Another bright spot was our bus trip to the Kokomo glass factory and visit to the impressive Indianapolis Museum of Art. On the ride home, my husband, Barry, and I stopped at the West Virginia Museum of American Glass. Another item on my glass bucket list, I have wanted to visit the WVMAG since it opened. I knew I was going to see a lot of American glass but it was overwhelming! Even more amazing was the amount of American glass in open storage.

The Dorflinger Glass Seminar was held the first week in October. I had been to the Dorflinger Glass Museum at the Dorflinger-Suydam Wildlife Sanctuary in White Mills, Pennsylvania, numerous times but this was an opportunity to see the Dorflinger Factory Museum. The Dorflinger Factory Museum and Arts Center was organized by James and Bette Davis-Asselstine and encompasses the Dorflinger office and the building housing the lower cutting shop. We were able to examine the outstanding Dorflinger cut glass collection on exhibit in the office. It was a pleasure to see pieces that had previously been in the David Dorflinger collection. Several of the lectures were the best I've heard all year. Those who participated in the Brilliant Glass show after the seminar were pleased with the attendance and sales.

It was back to Corning in mid-October for the annual Seminar on Glass that was organized around the

100th anniversary of Pyrex. Although not as well attended as other seminars, the lectures proved to be very interesting and the Pyrex exhibit at the Rakow Library was very popular. In contrast, the CMOG installation of the Ennion exhibit was very different from the exhibition at The Met. Greatly expanded, the Ennion pieces were surrounded by

other Roman blown and mold-blown pieces.

So in 2015, I was able to eliminate from my glass bucket list the Houston Museum of Decorative Arts in Chattanooga, the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, the West Virginia Museum of American Glass and the Dorflinger Factory Museum and Art Center. Each

one exceeded my expectations and I highly recommend visiting them all. Best wishes for the New Year and may you too cross off items on your own glass bucket list in 2016. Don't forget the 2016 Seminar in Norfolk in May!

— Gay LeCleire Taylor
President

History of Urban America in Glass

Artist Norwood Viviano explores the complex history of urban America through minimalist blown-glass forms in the exhibition “Cities: Departure and Deviation.” Composed in shades of white, black, and gray, Viviano’s glass diagrams can be read as three-dimensional timelines, telling the 400-year story of the rise and decline of urban industries and how fluctuations in manufacturing prompted dramatic changes in populations.

“Using data is a tool for conversation,” Viviano says, explaining that turning information into sculpture will help viewers ask questions about what makes a city successful. The 25 glass “cities” or graphs in Viviano’s installation are suspended in front of digitally rendered drawings containing population information.

Using the length of each form to depict time, the width to describe the population density and color to convey a moment of dramatic change, Viviano masterfully converts cold statistical data into a tranquil visual database of knowledge, which prompts the viewer

to think of cities as organic, changing landscapes.

The side-by-side arrangement of blown forms allows the viewer to see the magnitude of diversity in cities as varied as New York (population 8 million) and Flint, Michigan (population 110,000). Keeping these forms proportional is one of the most technically challenging aspects of crafting these works in glass.

Examined individually or compared to each other, each skillfully crafted graph distills complex data into subdued forms, allowing them to make eye-opening statements about the geographical, historical, and cultural factors affecting our cities and urban landscapes over time. This exhibition will be on view January 30–July 31, 2016, and admission is free.

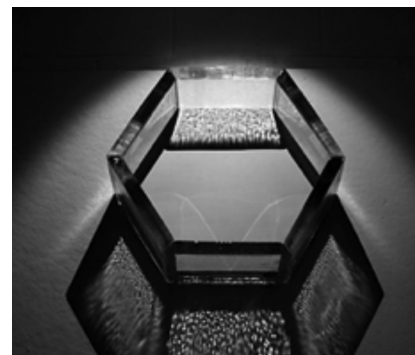
Chrysler Museum of Art
One Memorial Place
Norfolk, VA, 23510
(757) 664–6200
www.chrysler.org



Cities: Departure and Deviation, Norwood Viviano. Blown glass and vinyl cut drawings, 2011–2015. Photo: Cathy Carver.

Penumbra: Evan Coronis

Artist Evan Coronis exploits the ability of glass to transmit, reflect, and refract light in the exhibition “Penumbra: Evan Coronis,” which is on view until March 12, 2016, at the Brattleboro Museum of Art. He uses bulky hexagonal forms cast in cloudy, unrefined industrial glass as the basis of Penumbra. The white light Coronis throws on and through his honeycomb-like structures works a kind of magic. Penumbras are cast in all directions, creating a dynamic three-dimensional drawing in glass, light, and shadow.



“For a year I worked with the conceptual aspects of spatial manipulation, using sharp, clean, and ethereal shapes cast in glass,” Coronis explains. “My experimentation led me to the use of hexagons, which can be found in microscopic aspects of the natural and synthetic world all around us.”

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center
10 Vernon St.
Brattleboro, VT 05301
(802) 257-0124
www.brattleboromuseum.org

Glass Calendar

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

January 10, 2016

Little Rhody Bottle Show

www.littlerhodybottleclub.org

Founded in 1970, the Little Rhody Bottle Club has continually strived to promote the hobby of antique bottle collecting through the preservation of antique bottles and education through research relative to the companies those bottles represent. Join us for our annual show and sale to be held at the Holiday Inn in Taunton, MA. Visit our Web site for more information.



* * * *

Through February 15, 2016

WILLIAM J. CLINTON
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY
AND MUSEUM

Coca-Cola: An American Original

1200 President Clinton Ave.

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 374-4242

www.clintonlibrary.gov

This exhibition celebrates the art and history of the Coca-Cola bottle on its 100th anniversary. It features a



chronology of the Coca-Cola bottle, pop art by Andy Warhol, American classics by Norman Rockwell, depictions of Santa Clause by Haddon Sundblom, and folk art by Howard Finster.

* * * *

March 19–20, 2016

43rd Annual Heisey Glass Show/Sale

Ossian Hall

7128 Columbia Pike

Annandale, VA 22003

www.natcapheisey.org

www.heiseymuseum.org

From Royalty to Downton Abbey to the Augustus Heisey mansion to the homes of many Americans, centuries of beautiful glass items have been produced for men and women to use and enjoy in their bedrooms and bath. Gentlemen started their day with a shaving brush lathered-up in a handled mug, a soap dish for washing, and a “just-right size” toothbrush holder for that all-important item. He often had a water jug or pitcher with a tumbler set on a tray nearby. Depending on his



Heisey boudoir set.

status, he could have a cologne bottle, a covered cigar jar or cigarette holder, matchbox, and candlestick on another tray in his dressing room.

Ladies continue to be much more fashionable in their boudoir arrangements. A tray with water tankard, tumbler, candlestick, and matchbox were essential bedside items. However, it is the boudoir dressing table where

beauty takes center stage. Perfumes, colognes, and lavender jars were stunning ways to display her favorite fragrances. Puff boxes, ring holders, trinket boxes, and a hair receiver might round out another tray. A vase or handled basket held her favorite flowers. Molded, patterned, cut or etched and occasionally in color, many of these pieces will grant you the “Royal” treatment you deserve.

* * * *

Until March 6, 2016

NATIONAAL GLASMUSEUM

De la Torre Brothers: New World

Primitives

Glasblazerij Postbus 78

4140 AB Leerdam

The Netherlands

www.nationaalglasmuseum.nl

The Mexican-American brothers Jamex and Einar de la Torre are known for their expressive, brightly colored art. Their work often comments critically on social issues and current events, but also on the art world itself. The exuberant objects refer to themes such as religion, mythology, and contemporary life.

In this exhibition, the brothers reference their Mexican roots and intertwine them with the art history of The Netherlands. For this purpose they use different media. They edit images in Photoshop, make life-size prints of them, and combine them again with their glassware.



Photo: K. Vrancken.

Membership Update December 2015

We welcome new NAGC members:

Donna Bonell
Croton Falls, NY
Westchester

Deanna & Edward Gordon
Vinton, VA
MWPGS

DeAnn Kraus & Tony Paradiso
Tiffin, OH
MWPGS

Rony & Rachael Magnuson
Austin, MN
MWPGS

Shirley Stoll
Poplar Bluff, MO
MWPGS

And we thank recently renewing NAGC members:

Alan & Patricia Adams
Shelton, CT
Westchester

Joan Anderson
Wilbraham, MA
Founders

Ted & Dot Anthony
Saddle River, NJ
Westchester

Alice Becker
Southport, CT
Westchester

Judith Baker
Dorchester, MA
Founders

Mary Jo Baryza
Auburndale, MA
Founders

Deborah Bertoli
Oyster Bay, NY
Westchester

Amy Boches
Brookline, MA
Founders

Pearl Brimmer
S. Weymouth, MA
Founders

Carolyn Carlson
Natick, MA
Founders

Norma Daley
Eastham, MA
Founders

Carl Dapp
Poughkeepsie, NY
Westchester

Anthony & Loretta Dento
Oakland, NJ
Westchester

Robert & Barbara
DeRonde
Poughkeepsie, NY
Westchester

Jay & Miki Doros
Irvington, NJ
Westchester

Doris Eagen
Marblehead, MA
Founders

George & Ruth Ellassae
MWPGS

Marilyn Fitz
Manchester Twp, NJ
Westchester

George Fogg
Everett, MA
Founders

Ada Freedman
Westboro, MA
Founders

Art & Kathy Green
Newton, MA
Founders

Nancy Griswold
Mattapoisett, MA
Founders

Susan Haller
Hamden, CT
Westchester

Scott Hansen
Stamford, CT
Westchester

Bob Harry
Kissimmee, FL
MWPGS

Rosalie Harvey
Manchester, NJ
Westchester

Alice Hefler
Larchmont, NY
Westchester

Peggy Hooper
West Roxbury, MA
Founders

Dorothy Lee Jones
Weston, MA
Founders

Nina King Lavin
Wellsley, MA
Founders

Robert Korn
E. Elmhurst, NY
Westchester

Robert Kosar
Wilton, CT
Westchester

Marlene Lesley
Baltimore, MD
Baltimore

Jean Marie & Alvin
Levergood
Framingham, MA
Founders

Toledo Lucas County
Public Library
Toledo, OH

Bard Graduate Center Library
New York, NY

Louis Lopilato
Everett, MA
Founders

Louise Luther
E. Wakefield, NH
Founders

Ken & Sylvia Lyon
Strasburg, VA
Founders

Ralph Manna & Dr. Clara
Orsini-Romano
Yonkers, NY
Westchester

Nancy Marsden
Peabody, MA
Founders

Terrence & Rita Martell
Pelham, NY
Westchester

Mildred Martin
Brewster, NY
Westchester

Janet Mayrsohn
White Plains, NY
Westchester

Mary Susan Mazilauskas
New Rochelle, NY
Westchester

Mary Ellen McGurty
Peekskill, NY
Westchester

Fred Meyer
Cambridge, MA
Founders

Nancy Miller
Morristown, NJ

Joyce Mills
Woburn, MA
Founders

Bruce & Normajeanne
Mitchell
Orange, CT
Westchester

Tom Neale & Glen
Schlotfeldt
Bridgewater, VA
MWPGS

Ross Nelson
Manchester, CT
Westchester

Kirk Nelson
Mattapoisett, MA
Founders

Ross Nelson
Manchester, CT
Founders

Ellen O'Brien
Sarasota, FL
Westchester

Rici Perlowitz
Spring Valley, NY
Westchester

Karen Petraglia
Manchester, NH
Founders

Allan & Jane Port
Wellesley, MA
Founders

Joan Qureshi
S. Natick, MA
Founders

Doug Reed
Maplewood, NJ
Westchester

Doris Robinson
Dedham, MA
Founders

James Russell
Ridgefield, CT
Westchester

Loreen Ryan
Bronxville, NY
Westchester

George & June Sanderson
Staatsburg, NY
Westchester

Alice Saville
Lake Forest, IL
Founders

Bette Scholter
Mattapoisett, MA
Founders

Ian Simmonds
Carlisle, PA
Westchester

Elaine Sokoloff
Watertown, MA
Founders

Larry & Marion Steiner
Oradell, NJ
Westchester

Ben & Margaret Swindler
MWPGS

Patricia Tucker
Wellesley, MA
Founders

Judith Usen
Lexington, MA
Founders

L. Jean Wilson
Lansdale, PA
Founders

And, we apologize

We inadvertently omitted a long-time member from the 2015–16 Membership Directory:

Charlotte A. Fischer
Austin, MN

Finally, we ask for your help

The following members' recent publications have been returned as "Undeliverable." If you can help us with a correct address, please email Amy McHugh, our Membership Chair, at membership@glassclub.org, or write to her at NAGC, P.O. Box 24, Elkland, PA 16920. Thank you for your help.

Ablon, Sandra
Dayton, OH

Foote, Elizabeth
Timonium, MD

Marsh, John and Dudley
Dennis, MA

Gardner, Frank H.
Forest City, PA

O'Connor, Ione L.
Silver Springs, MD

Reigelman, Vivian
Waxhaw, NC

Sciaidone, Anthony
Albuquerque, NM

Secrist, Ray
Dasboro, DE

Winkler, Kay
Potomac, MD

Thanks again for your continued support of the NAGC!

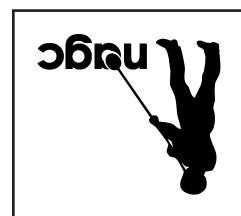
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www.glassclub.org

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The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be
March 1, 2016. Submit by mail to:
Alice Saville, Editor, *Glass Shards*
30 Honey Suckle Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045
or reach us by e-mail at: planetahicesaville@gmail.com



The National American
Glass Club
P. O. Box 24
Elkland, PA 16920