

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Winter 2018

Club and Chapter News

NAGC Annual Glass Seminar in Pittsburgh May 8–11, 2019

Our 2019 Annual Glass Seminar will be jam-packed with exciting and phenomenal glass experiences. Over three days, the schedule is filled with visits to 11 glass sites in three states (Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia), followed by a fourth day of presentations, the silent auction, and banquet.

In early 2019, a mailing to members will provide all the details on registration, the hotel in Pittsburgh, and information about the seminar activities—the museums, the visit to the private collection, viewing of the historic stained glass and international décor, and the informative talks complete with dazzling displays of glass.

Since there is an additional day added to the Seminar this year, some

options for the day trips will be offered in the registration packet. However, since it will be such a difficult decision to choose among them, we recommend that you plan on attending all four days, from May 8 to 11.



Cambridge *Rubina* pitcher, glass, and tray.

Remember, all you need to do is make your way to the Pittsburgh International Airport and take the free hotel shuttle or drive to the hotel—everything will be taken care of from there. Your hotel room reservation includes breakfast for two and free parking. The hotel has a full restaurant, bar, and a nice bistro/market with café seating or take out. For all our trips, buses will leave right from the hotel and lunch will either be an easy option or provided. Our Saturday meeting and banquet will conveniently take place at the hotel. You'll never be able to recreate this glass-intense experience. Don't miss it! Come to Pittsburgh with us this May.

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Contemporary Glass at the Lowe Art Museum

Works by some of the world's most notable glass artists are being featured in two exhibitions at the Lowe Art Museum, both on view until January 27, 2019.

The first, "Dialogues: Studio Glass from the Florence and Robert Werner Collection," is comprised of more than 50 works of contemporary glass from the collection of Florence and

Robert Werner, including Dan Dailey, Dale Chihuly, Michael Glancy, Dante Marioni, Linda MacNeil, Billy Morris, Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová, Yoichi Ohira, Tom Patti, Preston Singletary, Therman Statom, Lino Tagliapietra, and Toots Zynsky.

The second exhibition, "Giampaolo Seguso: My Page Is Glass" tells the story of one of Murano's foremost

glass *maestros* and features the never-before exhibited *Giardino dell'Anima* (Garden of the Soul) series.

LOWE ART MUSEUM
University of Miami
1301 Stanford Dr.
Coral Gables, FL
(305) 284-3535
www.lope.miami.edu

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

I hope you are doing well and enjoying the holiday season. During a time when many of us are traveling and spending time with family and dear friends, I find myself reflecting upon the long-lasting benefits of NAGC membership. I think many of you will agree that the deep friendships we form are just as meaningful as what we learn about glass. Chapter meetings and the National Seminar allow us to learn from one another and form relationships that go beyond the cursory conversations we have on social media. The wonderful people I've met through NAGC have become my "glass family" and I look forward to the time we spend together.

There's nothing better than discussing your latest finds with friends who have similar interests and learning more about glass. This year the National Seminar will be in Pittsburgh. I strongly urge you to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to travel through one of the country's most important glassmaking regions and visit an amazing private collection. Please be thinking about the silent auction. This fundraiser is great fun and an important source of revenue to offset seminar expenses. We welcome all types of glass, reference books, ephemera, NAGC memorabilia, and more.

Loreen Ryan and Karen Petraglia have generously coordinated our flawless seminars and silent auctions for years. Sadly they will be "retiring"

in 2019. We are very appreciative of their hard work, as well as their willingness to share their planning strategy and procedures with the next seminar committee. If you are interested in planning seminars or helping with any other aspect of NAGC, please let us know. We welcome new ideas and really want your input moving forward.

Don't forget to visit National American Glass Club's public group on Facebook. You can post images from your collection and learn from fellow members.

Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy New Year!

— Mary Cheek Mills
President
president1@glassclub.org

Huntsville Museum Celebrates the Beauty of Tiffany Glass

The exhibition "Louis Comfort Tiffany: Treasures from the Driehaus Collection," which is on view now through January 13, 2019, features more than 60 objects and spans over 30 years of Tiffany's prolific career. One of America's most renowned artists, Louis Comfort Tiffany worked in nearly all the media available to artists and designers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries—glass, ceramic, metalwork, jewelry, and painting. Tiffany's technical brilliance in a wide variety of media enabled him to convey his awe of the natural world through a range of objects, from common household items to one-of-a-kind masterpieces. He earned international acclaim for his artistic output, receiving prestigious awards in exhibitions across Europe and the United States. His work was collected by art museums and private collectors throughout his lifetime and continues to be highly sought after today. This exhibition, focusing on Tiffany's magnificent

stained-glass windows, floral vases, lamps, and accessories, revels in the artistry and craftsmanship of the Tiffany artworks from Chicago's distinguished Richard H. Driehaus Collection, highlighting masterworks never before presented in a comprehensive exhibition.

The Richard H. Driehaus Collection is one of the country's most important private collections of works by American decorative designer Louis Comfort

Tiffany. Widely recognized as the gold standard for American decorative objects of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, works by Tiffany and his associated firms are a core collecting area for Richard H. Driehaus.

HUNTSVILLE MUSEUM OF ART
300 Church St .SW
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 535-4350
<https://hsvmuseum.org>



Birds-eye view of group of Tiffany Studios lamps.
Photo: John Faier.

In Memoriam

Pamela D. Safford
1928–2018

Our dear member Mrs. Pamela D. Safford of College Park, Maryland, passed away on October 31, 2018. Pamela had been a member of the Washington Metropolitan Glass Club and Sandwich chapters of the National American Glass Club.



Pamela and Nathaniel Safford.

Mrs. Safford was born on June 28, 1928, on Martha's Vineyard Island (often referred to as Islanders). At a relatively young age her family moved to New Bedford, Massachusetts, where she grew up and graduated from New Bedford High School. She met her husband, Nathaniel, just before he went into the Army. They married in 1955 and had three children—two sons, one born in 1955 and the other in 1957, and a daughter, born in 1960. Pamela's husband of 61 years died November 6, 2016, from

complications related to a stroke (*Glass Shards*, Winter 2016) and her daughter died a week before Christmas in 2017 due to cancer.

The Safford's will be long remembered for their work in connection with the Washington Metropolitan Chapter where Pamela served as treasurer and Nathaniel as vice president, and especially for hosting scrumptious annual potluck suppers at their home. These were fun gatherings where members filled their crystal plates and the rooms of their modest suburban home were immersed in a dazzling array of art glass. We'll miss the abundance of Pamela's hospitality where one always felt welcome and so at home.

* * * *

Orva Walker Heissenbittel
1927–2018

Orva Walker Heissenbittel turned 91 before passing away October 31 at her home in Montross, Virginia. Born October 27, 1927, on a farm in Ohio, she began her education in a one-room schoolhouse and graduated as valedictorian of her high school class in 1945. While living in the Washington, DC, area, Orva began studying and collecting antiques, a pursuit that became the cornerstone of her career. Entirely self-taught, she began lecturing, exhibiting at antiques shows, and writing for newspapers in Prince George's County, Maryland. For 30 years, she taught

adult education classes in antiques, glassware, and furniture refinishing, inspiring hundreds of students.

She continued teaching and lecturing on antiques, especially ceramics and glass. Many of her repeat students and collectors expressed desire to continue learning, so Orva responded by organizing the American Antique Arts Association in 1971, welcoming anyone who shared her motto: "with knowledge comes appreciation." The AAAA grew to 18 chapters and 1,000 members, and continues its mission of education and fellowship today. She also founded numerous other organizations, including the National Duncan Glass Society and the National Capital Heisey Collectors. As a life-long member of the United Methodist Church, she leaves behind a legacy of inclusion, caring, and sharing.



Orva Walker Heissenbittel.

Exhibition Honors the Artform's Female Voices

"Sharper Edges: Women Working on the Edge of Glass," on now through February 17, 2019, features the work of female artists exploring social issues. Incorporated into glass sculpture, the women express distinct viewpoints on politics, gender biases, stereotypes, consumerism, and the environment.

Artists include Beth Lipman, Lisa Koch, Stephanie Trenchard, Deanna Clayton, Kristin Thielking, and the



***Monuments in the Park*, Audrey Handler.**

grande dame of contemporary glass, Audrey Handler. Other exhibiting artists include Carmen Lozar, Jennifer Caldwell, Lisa Beth Robinson, and Susan Taylor Glasgow.

BERGSTROM MAHLER MUSEUM
OF GLASS
165 N. Park Ave.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 751-4658
<https://bmmglass.com>

2019 National Marbles Tournament

The National Marbles Tournament was first held in 1922. A national committee operates the tournament and is composed of a group of volunteer men and women from various walks of life, from around the country, that have a common interest in the game of marbles. These games help teach boys and girls, ages 7–14, how to compete in the skilled game of “Ringer” as well as good sportsmanship. The winners will meet with other city, county, or state tournament winners from around the United States who will all converge in Wildwood for a week of serious marble competition and fun on amusement rides and boardwalk attractions. Top winners at the National Tournament will receive scholarships for games won and awards for good sportsmanship.

Three training sessions are required to be eligible to play in the local tournament. Training sessions are held on Saturday mornings, March 16–April 27, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Registration forms for 2019 can be picked up



and dropped off at the Ohio Glass Museum. The 2019 Fairfield County Marbles Tournament will be held indoors at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds on Saturday, May 11, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. Call (740) 687-0101 and talk with Bill Eckman or e-mail: museum@ohioglassmuseum.org or more information. Also go to www.NationalMarblesTournament.org for further details.

OHIO GLASS MUSEUM
124 W. Main St.
Lancaster, OH 43130
(740) 687-0101
<https://ohioglassmuseum.org>

Paperweights: Tiny Worlds within Glass

“Small Worlds” highlights different techniques, styles, and various types of paperweights from the 19th century, the classic period for paperweight manufacture, to present day. This exhibition features works from the classic period by European glass factories like French crystal manufacturers Baccarat, Clichy, and Saint-Louis. Paperweight production all but ceased in late 19th-century Europe, but was revived in the mid-20th century in both Europe and the United States. Independent artists experimented with new designs, techniques, and materials. Some of the earliest contemporary paperweights in “Small Worlds” were created by Charles Kaziun and Dominick Labino, both members of the Studio Glass Movement. Numerous works by Paul Stankard, Rick Ayotte, and Cathy Richardson, as well as artworks

by 17 other contemporary paperweight makers are also featured. The exhibition is on view until May 29, 2019.

FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
1120 E. Kearsley St.
Flint, MI 48503
(810) 234-1695
<https://flintarts.org>



Baccarat paperweight, mid-19th century.

Light within Darkness

A new exhibition, “Nyctophilia—Light in the Absence of It” opens at the Glasmuseet Ebeltoft (January 26, 2019–March 31, 2019) and brings together Nina Westman and Rui Sasaki. Although they come from different parts of the world—Westman lives in Sweden, Sasaki in Japan—they share a common interest in luminescent glass. Here, both artists examine light ‘in the absence of it’.



Weather Chandelier, Rui Sasaki, 2017. Photo: Kiichiro Okamura.

Individually, they’ve experimented with fluorescent and phosphorescent glass and recently examined how neon and plasma techniques can be used to create light in dark places. In her work, Rui Sasaki is interested in the relationship between body and surroundings, which she has explored in various ways, often in cast glass.

With a background in theater and acting, Nina Westman often works scenographically with both blown and cast glass in spatial installations. Over a longer period of time she has worked with uranium glass, which is luminous, when struck by UV-light.

GLASMUSEET EBELTOFT
Strandvejen 8
DK-8400 Ebeltoft
DENMARK
<https://glasmuseet.dk>

Glass Calendar

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

Through February 24, 2019

FORT WAYNE MUSEUM OF ART
Dan Clayman: Shift
311 E. Main St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
(260) 422-6467
www.fwmoa.org

“Shift” marks a departure from Dan Clayman’s previous modes of production in that this installation is a group of 8–10 diverse forms and presentation methods that, together, form a cohesive experience for the viewer. Clayman has said he often explores a form or material through multiple iterations over 2–3 years, resulting in a series, or family, of similar sculpture. With “Shift,” we encounter distinct sculptural concepts made in Clayman’s signature minimalist style.



Blue Circular Object, Dan Clayman, 2007.

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Through March 17, 2019

MUSEUM OF GLASS
Foraging the Hive: Sara Young and Tyler Budge
1801 Dock St.
Tacoma, WA 98402
(253) 284-4719
www.museumofglass.org

Defining their purpose through interdisciplinary investigations about creation and production is the basis for the



Swarm, Sara Young and Tyler Budge, 2005.

artists’ seventh collaborative installation. Experiences with beekeeping, bee observation, and honey extraction allowed them to see similarities that exist between the bees and themselves as creators. Glass test tubes allowed them to view their experiments, which were sealed with beeswax to store and preserve the crop. They created, in essence, a glass hive.

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January 13, 2019

LITTLE RHODY BOTTLE CLUB
Annual Show
Holiday Inn
700 Myles Standish Blvd.
Taunton, MA
(508) 880-4929
www.oceanstatebottleclub.com

Contact Bill or Linda Rose at sierra.madre@comcast.net for more information.



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February 2–3, 2019

SOUTH FLORIDA DEPRESSION GLASS CLUB
45th Annual Show and Sale
Emma Lou Olson Civic Center
1801 NE 6th St.
Pompano Beach, FL 33060
(561) 767-5233
www.facebook.com/sfdgc
E-mail: xiggy58@live.com

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February 7, 2019

STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY
Stretch Glass Call Out
www.stretchglassociety.org

“Late Period Fenton Stretch Glass Produced for Others” will be the topic. All are welcome to join in by calling (415) 464-6800, followed by ID: 04211974# (8:00 pm Eastern, 7:00 pm Central, 6:00 pm Mountain, and 5:00 pm Pacific Time). All photos will be available on our Website one week preceding the call.

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March 9–10, 2019

20-30-40 GLASS SOCIETY OF ILLINOIS
47th Annual Depression & Elegant Glass Show and Sale
Midwest Conference Center
Concord Plaza
401 W. Lake St.
Northlake, IL 60164
(708) 655-1702
www.20-30-40glassociety.org

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March 23, 2019

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS
Annual All-Cambridge Benefit Auction
Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
7033 Glenn Highway
Cambridge, OH 43725
www.cambridgeglass.org/auction/auctionhome.php

Renowned Collection of Alvina Breckel Sold at Auction

Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates of Mt. Crawford, Virginia, held a two-session auction of the renowned 19th-century American glass and lighting collection of the late Alvina Breckel of Oley, Pennsylvania, and Winnetka, Illinois, on November 8 and 9, 2018. Mrs. Breckel was co-founder of the James H. Rose Chapter of the National American Glass Club, and along with her husband, Ted, was a life member of the NAGC. Over a 40-year period she assembled one of the top collections of cup plates, lacy period salts, and early children's toys in the country, acquiring many lots from the 1986/1987 William J. Elsholz Collection auctions.

The Breckel Collection was presented in 1,135 lots for which two special color printed catalogs were produced. The sale generated significant pre-sale excitement and produced solid prices overall with a few surprises. Top lot

was a unique slate blue HL-4 Henry Clay pressed open salt. Made at the Boston & Sandwich Glass Company, or possibly Midwestern, the rare vessel shattered its estimate range when two determined private collectors on the phones chased it to \$22,230 (Lot 1066). Other noteworthy results included a WN-1 wagon form pressed open salt in a unique medium blue color at \$17,550 (Lot 1238); the unique Lee/Rose No. 64-X "Parker White" cup plate, an icon of early American pressed glass, at \$14,040

(Lot 26); and a highly-coveted Lee/Rose No. 560 round Washington colorless cup plate, one of only three known examples at \$14,040 (Lot 250). All of the above lots were originally part of the Elsholz Collection and carried an impressive provenance history which added to their desirability.

To order the Breckel print catalogs with prices realized sheets or for more information call (540) 434-3939, or e-mail: info@jeffreysevans.com. Both catalogs can also be accessed at jeffreysevans.hibid.com/auctions/past.



Unique slate blue HL-4 Henry Clay pressed open salt. Boston & Sandwich Glass Co. or Midwestern, 1830–1845.

First Class

DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE?
MARCH 1, 2019

Visit NAGC Web page:
www.glassclub.org

ATTENTION READERS!

The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be
March 1, 2019. Submit by mail to:

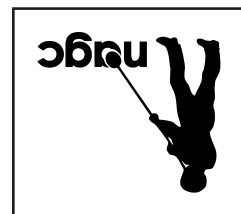
Alice Saville, Editor, *Glass Shards*

30 Honey Suckle Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045

or reach us by e-mail at: planelalicesaville@gmail.com

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