

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Winter 2019

Corning Museum

In Sparkling Company: Glass and Social Life in Britain During the 1700s Opens May 9, 2020

With exhibition design by Selldorf Architects, *In Sparkling Company* will present the glittering costume and jewelry, elaborate tableware, polished mirrors, and dazzling lighting devices that delighted the British elite, and helped define social rituals and cultural values of the period. Through a lens of glass, this exhibition will show visitors what it meant to be “modern” in the 1700s, and what it cost.

The exhibition will also include a special virtual reality reconstruction of the remarkable and innovative spangled-glass drawing room completed in 1775 for Hugh Percy, 1st Duke of Northumberland (1714–1786), and designed by Robert Adam (1728–1792),

one of the leading architects and designers in Britain at the time. An original section of the room (which was dismantled in the 1870s), on loan from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, will be on view in North America for the first time as part of the exhibition. It will be accompanied by Adam’s original colored design drawings for the interior, on loan from the Sir John Soane’s Museum, London.

The smooth, polished, and reflective properties of glass perfectly embodied 18th-century ideals of sociability, in what is considered by many as the “age of politeness.” As urban centers grew in size and prosperity, sociability became ever more sophisticated. The

terms “polite” and “polished” were often used interchangeably in the numerous etiquette manuals eagerly read by those wishing to take their place in that world. Examples of such literature will be displayed alongside fashionable glass of the period, including embroidered costume, mirrors, a chandelier, cut glass lighting and tableware, and paste jewelry that accessorized and defined the lives of the polished elite.

THE CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS

One Museum Way
Corning, NY 14830
(800) 732-6845
www.cmog.org



Wine or cordial glasses, cut and engraved lead glass. England, about 1780. Each: H. 15.8 cm.
Collection of The Corning Museum of Glass



Ornamental vases, gilded copper-green lead glass. England, probably decorated in the London workshop of James Giles about 1765.
Collection of The Corning Museum of Glass

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

As we go to publication the holidays are just receding in the rearview mirror and 2020 is underway. Our NAGC Chapter here in Pittsburgh gathered for a wonderful holiday party. Each year we use our December meeting to celebrate this special time of year. We share punch and appetizers as people arrive and settle in. Everyone wears a little touch of color, a special sweater, a piece of jewelry, that adds to the festival feel of the evening.

Bob Stakeley and I decorate our meeting room with holiday tablecloths and centerpieces on each table. This year we did round glass fishbowls full of colored Christmas ornaments – simple, but beautiful. We all sit down and enjoy a nice dinner together. After dinner the fun begins.

First, we share a potluck of incredible desserts – most people bake something special. Whether it is ginger cookies or brownies, lemon bars or fruitcake, we all look forward to a delicious treat. Most of us bring a glass tray or platter to put the treats on and most years these dishes, once emptied, make for a fun show and tell! We also do a grab bag gift exchange – we set a \$20 limit, but no one really pays attention to that figure.

The gift exchange has evolved through the years. Now it is almost exclusively glass gifts that folks bring. Club members spend so much time searching for something special – all of us are on the edge of our seats waiting to see what's inside the carefully wrapped layers of tissue and bubble wrap. As I left the party this year with my beautiful Duncan Miller First Love

candy dish I thought – this is the wonder of what we do each month. It is the gift of glass that brings us together. The sharing that goes on, the new friends made, the delight we take in learning something new, that fellowship keeps us coming back month after month.

I wish the same for you – that glass brings you joy, happiness, friendship, and fun in this new year and that you celebrate the gift of glass in 2020!

Best wishes for a wonderful year,
Anne P. Madarasz
President

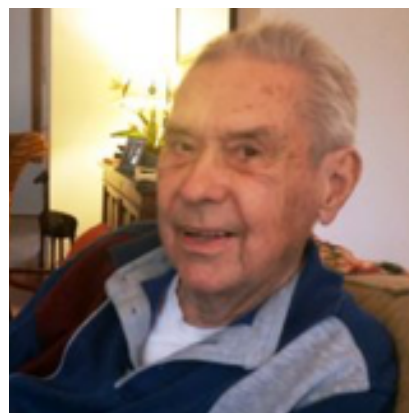
In Memoriam

Bill Sheriff
October 29, 2019

Bill served with the United States Army and attended Georgetown University where he earned his master's degree. He spent his entire career with the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, where he became a pioneer in their IT programs as a programmer of computer applications used by the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, Instrumentation and Computer Section. He retired from the NIH in 1995. Bill had many hobbies including books and reading, photography, woodworking, and collecting antiques. He and Nancy fell in love with the history of glass in the '70s and that interest became their primary hobby.

A member of the NAGC since 1979, no one called him Mr. Sheriff, William, or "Junior." Just like at the NIH, his friends in the NAGC all knew him as Bill. A lovable bearer of an encyclopedic mind chock full of

glass facts, Bill and Nancy developed, hosted, and delivered numerous capacity lectures on early American, Midwestern, and Anglo-Irish glass. The Sheriffs were energetic supporters of the National American Glass Club and Bill served as Treasurer of the Glass Club of Silver Spring and the Bakewell Chapter from 1986 and later chaired the NAGC Education Resources Committee. In 1986, Bill became the logical choice to computerize the club rolls and to publish the first NAGC Membership Directory – and, together with Nancy, continued to do so annually for 16 years. Adding to those accomplishments, Bill laid the foundation for the Club's first comprehensive *Glass Club Bulletin Index* which continues today as an on-line feature on the club's website. Their contributions to glass scholarship included writings for *The Glass Club Bulletin* and a chapter newsletter called *Gatherings*. We should note that Bill Sheriff's devotion to glass scholarship included donations of many rare documents from their collection to the Rakow Research Library of



Bill Sheriff

The Corning Museum of Glass. In 2012 the National American Glass Club honored Nancy and Bill Sheriff with admittance to the Distinguished Member Recognition Program (DMRP).

One of Bill's favorite stories was his acquaintance with Warren Buffett when they were kids at Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington and had paper routes. The only difference between them was that Warren saved his money and Bill didn't! Bill Sheriff will be truly missed.

Emilie Grootendorst Barry
1932–2019

On November 30, a large group of Emilie Barry's family and friends filled the Evanston (Illinois) Woman's Club for a stylish celebration of her life. Emilie was a long-time member of the James H. Rose Chapter of the NAGC.

A prolific writer of letters and emails, Emilie kept up with her large group of correspondents. Her talent and wit were first noticed when she attended Beaver College (now

Arcadia University) in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, which led to advertising jobs in New York City with Young and Rubicam and with NBC.

Emilie met Wally Barry, a "Chicago boy," on an NYC commuter train. They were married in 1957, and during their long residence in Evanston they became the parents of first Edith Barry and then Susan Barry.

NAGC chapter members will remember Emilie's enthusiasm for antiques collecting and her thirst for knowledge and friendship.



Emilie Grootendorst Barry

Focus on Glass

Free and Applied Glass Art from the Staatliche Glasfachschule Hadamar Through January 5, 2020

This exhibition presented some 50 works by both graduates and current students at the school. The artists all had one thing in common: a perfect command of the various glass techniques, which they applied to reinterpreting and even breaking the rules. The works on view were abstract, sculptural, narrative, ironic, or simply beautiful – unfolding a broad kaleidoscope of artistic skill and creativity!

The small Hessian town of Hadamar, idyllically set at the edge of the Westerwald forest between Cologne and Frankfurt, has been home to a modern training center for glass technology and glass design since 1949. The Staatliche Glasfachschule Hadamar is today one of the best-known training and glass-processing establishments in all of Germany. It was founded in 1949 by glass workers who had been displaced from the glassmaking centers of northern Bohemia after WWII and established new glass-finishing businesses there. Their aim

was to teach young professionals their trade at a vocational school for glass, as had been customary in their homeland.

Thanks to forward-looking management, the school has succeeded in continually optimizing its training programs to fit the latest developments and requirements of professional practice. In addition, the school's directors and teachers have regularly had a say

concerning instruction and curricula for the glass working and processing professions, thus creating excellent conditions for training.

The school's fine reputation enables it to attract young people from all over Germany and from neighboring European countries, as well as Asia and Africa. They come to learn a glass-processing or industrial occupation, to do advanced training in the various techniques, and to work creatively with glass.

The multi-year full-time vocational school offers foundational training in the professions of glazier, glass apparatus maker, and glass finisher (edge and surface finishing, glass painting, and art glazing).

But beyond the trade aspects, working with glass as a material gives students the opportunity to find their own means of creative expression. It comes as no surprise that many distinguished glass artists have come out of the Glasfachschule Hadamar.



Courtesy of Museum

Cleveland Museum of Art *Tiffany in Bloom: Stained Glass Lamps of Louis Comfort Tiffany* Through June 14, 2020

Focusing on Louis Comfort Tiffany's passion for stained glass as a way to bring nature's splendid color into the home, this exhibition explores Tiffany's vivid designs in relation to emerging artistic and craft movements at the turn of the 20th century. Through the dynamic, illuminated display of 20 of the designer's finest stained glass table and floor lamps and featuring the iconic Hinds House stained glass window, *Tiffany in Bloom* introduces visitors to the magic that Tiffany created with thousands of shards of glass and the "newfangled" power of electric light. Period photographs and accounts of his artisans also provide a glimpse into Tiffany's shop and studio. His method of design, production, and marketing; his reliance on women designers, such as Ohio native Clara Driscoll; and his alliances with both

his father's firm (Tiffany & Co.) and his European counterpart Siegfried Bing (Maison de l'Art Nouveau) lift the curtain on Tiffany's special brand of artistic creation and success.

Rare masterworks such as the *Wisteria*, *Peacock*, *Bamboo*, and *Peony* lamps highlight important thematic groups that focus on Tiffany's many stylistic influences, from Asian to Art Nouveau. The stained-glass techniques used by Tiffany's artisans reveal the firm's unparalleled standard of quality and the designer's love for the infinite possibilities of iridescence, texture, and color in manipulating light. Most of the works in this exhibition recently joined the museum's collection through the generous bequest of Charles Maurer, a Cleveland industrialist and renowned collector of works by Louis Comfort Tiffany. *Tiffany in Bloom* celebrates



Peony floor lamp, designed (possibly) by Clara Wilcott Driscoll, 1905-1910

this extraordinary gift by providing an unprecedented opportunity to view so many of Tiffany's great lamps together in a veritable bouquet of splendor.

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
11150 East Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44106
(216) 421-7350
www.clevelandart.org

Chrysler Museum *Dan Dailey: Character Sketch* February 21–May 31, 2020

Known as one of the most unique voices within the field of contemporary glass, Dan Dailey pairs an industrial palette with precise draftsmanship and technical craftsmanship to produce his figurative artwork.

Subjective and narrative in nature, his pieces are inspired by the human character and based upon his direct observation of the world. *Dan Dailey: Character Sketch*, will include 33 works by the artist.

Dailey is renowned for his keen observation, sense of humor, and wit. In his quest to comment on human nature and society, he deftly captures and conveys the essence of various moods and actions. He makes no attempt at realism and renders figures in a way that reveals their emotions and thoughts. With a unique graphic sensibility and Art Deco quality, Dailey creates classic symbols representing a type of person



***Dubious*, from the series *Individuals*, 2011
Lent by the artist
Photography by Bill Truslow
© Dan Dailey**

or expressing an essential quality of character.

The Chrysler's exhibition will span

Dailey's 40-year career and include blown and hot-worked glass vases and sculpture; glass cane murals; and wall reliefs made from Vitrolite, industrial colored glass that was only made between 1900–1947. Original drawings will also be on view, demonstrating the embedded nature of drawing in Dailey's working process. Dailey is guided by the properties of liquid glass in his approach to traditional artistic formats like vases, busts, and landscape painting. He articulates his perceptions and thoughts about humanity through the medium of glass, pushing the material to new frontiers in order to tell stories about human nature.

CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART
One Memorial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510
(757) 664-6200
www.chrysler.org

Glass Calendar

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

January 25-26, 2020

SOUTH FLORIDA DEPRESSION
GLASS CLUB SHOW
*Vintage American Glass and Pottery
Show & Sale*
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Rd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431
561-767-2592
www.sfdgc.com
jerliz60@hotmail.com

* * * *

February 1-2, 2020

INTERNATIONAL DEPRESSION
GLASS CLUB
Vintage Glass, China & Pottery Sale
Scottish Rite Temple
6151 H St.
Sacramento, CA
idgc.org/glassshow.php
RL3690@comcast.net

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SAVE THE DATE NAGC 2020 SEMINAR April 23-25

Toledo, Ohio

Toledo has a rich history of glass,
as well as being the birthplace of
the studio glass movement.

February 13, 2020

STRETCH-OUT CALL ON
CONSOLE SETS
The Stretch Glass Society

Join us to learn all about this beautiful glass, to ask questions and share your finds. The calls are at 8pm Eastern, 7 Central, 6 Mountain and 5 Pacific time. All are welcome to join in by calling (415) 464-6800, followed by ID: 04211974#.

Approximately one week prior to the call, an email reminder and photos of the glass to be discussed will be sent to members who have given us their email address; the photos will also be posted on our website. If we don't have your email address and you would like to receive the reminder and photos, please send your email to info@stretchglassociety.org and ask to receive photos for this stretch-out call. If you have questions about your stretch glass and would like information from our experts, please send a photo to info@stretchglassociety.org with your questions and we will do our best to respond.

February 14-16, 2020

HOUSTON GLASS SHOW & SALE
plus The Best Little Antique Show in Texas
Fort Bend County Fairgrounds
Hwy 36 and Hwy 59
Rosenberg, TX
(713) 410-4780
www.maxmillerantiques.com
mmxglass@aol.com

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Through February 22, 2020

BERGSTROM-MAHLER MUSEUM
OF GLASS
Wisconsin Ideas, Global Influences
165 N. Park Ave.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 751-4658
bmmglass.com

This exhibition focuses on the impact Wisconsin glass artists have had on shaping the global landscape of contemporary studio glass during the past 70 years. Exploring the many qualities of the medium, these artists have developed meaningful, lasting works for new generations of audiences and collectors.

New Libbey Catalog



It's been more than 20 years since the American Cut Glass Association's Catalog Committee last published material relating to Libbey's cut glass. They have made up for lost time by publishing a compendium of material called *Libbey Redux* this past fall. It features dozens of new patterns and blank shapes for Libbey's cut and engraved glass produced between the 1890s and the 1930s and is the result of a collaboration between the ACGA, the Rakow Research Library of The Corning Museum of Glass and The Library of the Toledo Museum of Art.

The catalog contains more than 350 pages of material including excerpts from over a dozen Libbey catalogs, scrapbooks, and booklets. The book features dozens of new patterns and

known patterns on new shapes, along with a previously unpublished, detailed chronology of the firm's activities during the American Brilliant period, and a comprehensive index of the contents sorted by pattern and shape.

The price for ACGA members is \$58, or \$70 for non-members. Information to order the book can be found on the ACGA's website www.cutglass.org (PayPal accepted) or via check and USPS mail to the:

ACGA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
P. O. Box 1147, Elizabeth, CO
80107-1147

Chapter News

Club Visits Yale Art Exhibit: *A Nation Reflected: Stories in American Glass*

In June, the Westchester Glass Club went on the road to New Haven, Connecticut, to tour a sweeping historical perspective of glass, guided by John Stuart Gordon, the Benjamin Attmore Hewitt Associate Curator of American Decorative Arts, Yale University Art Gallery, and author of *American Glass: The Collections at Yale*.

John spoke about the book, "Glass can be decorative or utilitarian and its forms often reflect technological innovations and social change. Drawing on an insightful selection from the Yale University Art Gallery and other collections at Yale, *American Glass* illuminates the vital and often intimate roles that glass has played in the nation's art and culture."

Bruce Mitchell of WGC organized the annual club outing, which was attended by 14 club members. Everyone enjoyed the display of artistic and functional glass objects that were carefully selected to best represent different time periods in American history. Club members' enthusiasm and knowledge of glass kept them

transfixed, viewing both the old and new glass on display.

The exhibit showcased 18th-century mold-blown vessels, 19th-century pressed glass, innovative studio work, and luminous stained-glass windows by John La Farge and Louis Comfort Tiffany, the latter reproduced as a lush gatefold. These are presented alongside functional glass objects that broaden the visitors' expectations of glass and speak to the importance of glass in American life, including one of the oldest complex microscopes in the United States, an early Edison light bulb, glass-plate photography, jewelry, and more.

James Russell, Westchester Glass Club president



Photograph courtesy of James Russell

First Class

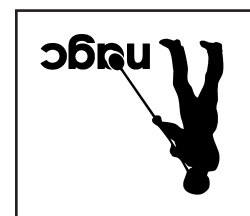
DEADLINE
MARCH 1, 2020
NEXT ISSUES

Visit NAGC Web page:
www.glassclub.org

ATTENTION READERS!
The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be
March 1, 2020. Submit by mail to:
Alice Saville, Editor, *Glass Shards*
30 Honey Suckle Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045
or reach us by e-mail at: planetaliceaville@gmail.com

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