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## PAPERWEIGHT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Volume 24 • Number 1

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

January 2017

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new president, a new meeting place, and a new year. Quite an interesting start to 2017 for DVPCA. Toby looks real happy to be handing me the gavel [Figure 1]. She'll be a hard act to follow, but I'll do my best.

Our new meeting place, the Buona Via restaurant, is just a mile or so up the street from Williamson's, so it should be convenient to everyone. As you can see from the pictures, it is a nice looking place [Figure 2]. We will take over the main dining room [Figure 3] so there will be plenty of room for the dealer, artist, and member tables. It has a very good local reputation, so the food should be good. Hopefully it will meet our needs – we'll know after our first meeting. Be sure to let us know how you like it.

One thing I have noticed in my many years of membership in DVPCA is that we know a lot about a few members' collections. Thanks to our July garden parties, you have a pretty good idea of what Andy Dohan, Boyd England, Don Formigli, and Andrew Scott collect. You also know Toby's and my likes and dislikes. But what about all of the other collectors in our group? I think it would be great to give them an opportunity to share their collections with us, and one way to do this would be to occasionally



Figure 1



Figure 2

have show and tell sessions. So, for our January meeting, I would like everyone to bring in their favorite paperweight and be prepared to say a few words about it. Hopefully my new video camera will make it possible to project an image of each weight onto the screen so everyone will have a good view of it. You'll also notice that on each table will be a questionnaire – I really want your input as to what you'd like to see happen in our meetings. If you want contests, member swap and sell opportunities, want to make your own presentation, or something really different, please let me and the rest of your officers know.

We also need articles and news tidbits for our Newsletter, so please help Toby get off to a good start as editor.

As you have been hearing for the last couple of months, the PCA convention will be held in Norfolk, VA April 26-29. The program is set and is sure to appeal to a wide range of paperweight collectors. It's an easy drive for most DVPCA members, and I'd like to see a great turnout by our group. I would also encourage those of you who are not PCA members to join up and enjoy all of the perks that this organization provides – 4 Newsletters, the PCA, Inc. Bulletin, reduced convention rates, and the opportunity to interface with collectors, artists, and dealers from all over the world.

I wish you all a happy and healthy 2017, a new year filled with opportunities to add new treasures to your collections.

John Hawley  
President



Figure 3

# DVPCA Autumn Meeting

## Review of Events

### October 15, 2016

#### Welcome

The Autumn meeting of the Delaware Valley Paperweight Collector's Association was held on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at Williamson's Restaurant in Horsham, Pennsylvania. President Toby Hawley welcomed the guest artist Paul Stankard and his daughter Pauline Iacovino, guest speaker Gay LeCleire Taylor, guest dealer Ben Drabeck, members and friends.

#### Morning Program

Paul Stankard, who last visited us in July, 1997, gave a talk entitled, "Down Memory Lane." He took us on a delightful journey from his years as a scientific glass blower to his present status in the world of glass where he has works exhibited in more than 60 museums around the world. We learned that at the beginning of his 50 years of creating paperweights, he initially was fascinated with the South Jersey paperweight tradition, in particular, the Millville rose weights. He also admired the Harvard glass flowers. His first paperweight efforts took place in 1969. Paul worked with soda lime glass and made glass animals and giftware. These initial creations sold for 35 – 75 cents each and included elephants, horses and owls to name a few. He then began placing flowers in crystal and today especially loves making orbs. The machine he uses to polish the orbs was designed to cut and polish bowling balls!

Paul's works are botanically accurate. In his latest work, he includes symbols such as golden orbs and



*Paul Stankard, Guest Artist*

root figures. He told us that when he laminates black backgrounds onto his works, he imagines that the items are in outer space! At a certain time in his career, Paul hit an creative invisible wall but after reading Walt Whitman's works, he began to write poetry and enjoyed it very much. Whitman served as a great inspiration to him. He celebrated nature and Paul wished to do the same in glass.

His studio is in Mantua, New Jersey. His daughter Pauline manages the studio. He makes one piece a week. David Graeber comes in on Friday mornings and helps him put together the work. Paul's daughters Christine and Katherine worked with him for 20 years and have since moved on to other pursuits. He showed us a 3 minute video demonstrating how he creates glass figures. This video has been viewed by more than 22,000 people. The glass he uses is commercially available. He is especially proud of his Honeybee Swarm with Flowers and Fruit which is in the Art Institute of Chicago paperweight exhibit.

Paul views himself as an object maker. We wish him many more wonderful years. As he told us, "Life is good," and we agree!

#### Lunch and Raffle Sales

Lunch was wonderful as usual and raffle sales totaled \$170.00

#### Old Business

We were able to examine and place orders for the DVPCA 25th anniversary paperweight which will be made by Ken Rosenfeld. The price of the weight is \$400.00.

Meetings in 2017 will take place on January 28, April 8, July 15, and October 21.

#### New Business

This was the last meeting of the DVPCA at Williamson's Restaurant. The next meeting will be at Buona Via Restaurant and will be presided over by our new President, John Hawley. Buona Via is located at 426 Horsham Road, Horsham Pa. 19044, and the phone number is (215) 672-5595.

Officers were presented with gifts by Toby Hawley. Our two long time waitresses were presented with paperweights. Toby was presented with a beautiful amber bowl made by Ray Lapsys in appreciation for her service as President of DVPCA for three terms.

We auctioned off Cathy Richardson's paperweight (sent to us as a requirement of the Barbara Stitt Memorial Fund grant which she received this year) – it realized \$1,200 which will be added back into the Stitt Fund.

Raffle prizes were distributed.

### Afternoon Program

Gay LeClaire Taylor gave a wonderfully informative talk on Silvered Glass Paperweights and related objects. She began by informing us that these objects did not include mercury. Much on the internet today is made in India and some examples included in her PowerPoint slideshow had obvious signs of deterioration inside.

We learned that the first silvered items were garden gazing balls. We saw some examples of mirrors, a Roman fresco from the 1st century AD and a Greek figure from 470 – 460 BCE. The first mirrors were made from obsidian and mirrors were also made from polished copper and steel. Venetian mirrors were backed with tin and mercury. We also saw a slide of the Palace of Versailles 3rd building including the Hall of Mirrors. The items in this location were made with Venetian mirror making techniques.

Gay's talk included a discussion of silvered weights from Boston and Sandwich, Gillinder and Sons, and the New England Glass Company, to name a few.

It was obvious from the show of hands in response to Gay's question, "How many of you own a silvered paperweight?" that many of us do not own one of these rare objects and probably (I specifically own up to this one) knew very little about them. Three people in the club own one or more of these items. We certainly enjoyed and learned many interesting things from Gay's interesting and informative presentation.

Toby said a few last words to us as the outgoing president of our club. She was, as always, gracious and thanked us for a wonderful 6 years and included a special thank you to Stan Kruger for making the club what it is today. She then distributed maps to the Hawley residence for the open house she and John were to host on Sunday, October 16.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Munz  
Recording Secretary



*Ben Drabeck, Guest Dealer*



*Paul Stankard, Morning Speaker*

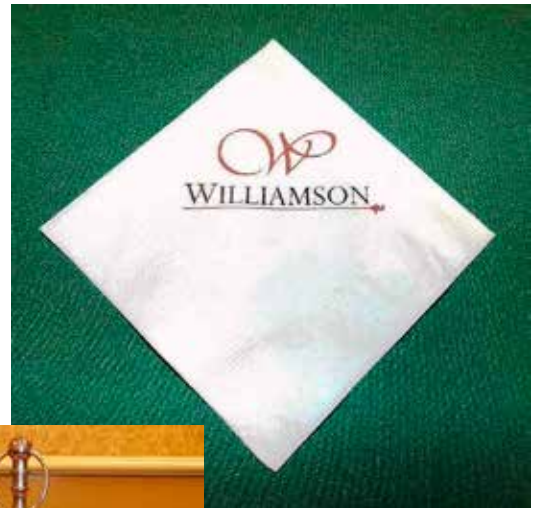


*Gay LeClaire Taylor, Afternoon Speaker*

*Wishing You every Happiness  
Throughout the Coming Year*

# Fond Farewell to Williamson's

For almost 25 years, Williamson's has been DVPCA's meeting place. For many reasons, the owners decided to close the doors. In place of this facility will be a Wawa and other businesses. We thank them for all of the services they have provided us, including the delicious lunches. Now it is time for us to move on.



*Meeting Room*



*Danish Delights*



*Stankard Orb*



*Lending Library*



*Table 1*



*Table 2*



*Table 3*



*Table 4*



*Table 5*



*Gifts for Servers - Joanna and Sue*

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DVPGA

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## ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR CLOSE-UPS?



*Erica Appleby and Marcella Kelly*



*Pat Ackerman and Steve Munz*



*Gordon Smith and Diane Atkerson*



*Lee Arnold and Neal Demp*



*Rob Campe and Gordon*



*Toby, Gordon, Paul, and John*



*Gail Munz, Jim Perna, and Gary Geiger*



*Jim Lefever, Gay, Boyd England, Gordon, and Andy Dohan*



*Bart and Sue Sutton*



*Roz Heith and Bonnie Geiger*

## **The Artwork of Alison Ruzsa**

“I enjoy the idea of creating a painting which can be looked at from more than one point of view. I want to create a world with many perspectives; a painting that can be seen from many angles. With each turn, one discovers a different aspect of the picture. This reminds me that there is always more than one way to look at life.” While completing her degree in Fine Arts, Alison Ruzsa began working with glass in 1991 as a way to expand her study in sculpture. She was given a Glass magazine by her first glassblowing teacher and told to choose the artist and technique she was most intrigued by. After finding out that the small shop did not have the equipment necessary to make a traditional encased paperweight, she decided to devise her own methods and techniques to incorporate imagery within the glass. Using

an eyeliner brush and enamel paint, Alison creates elaborate miniature landscapes using multiple layers of glass. Through the years she has created paperweights in this technique, as well as larger more complex works. From the very beginning you will see the silhouette has been a consistent theme. “I normally use the silhouette for the figures because I’m interested in gesture. It’s a nice way to make the human element a physical reaction to the environment.” Other times she strays from that with cartoonish figures reminiscent of a children’s story book. In these pieces the characters are more specific, often portraits, as opposed to the everyone, or anyone feeling of the silhouettes. In either case the artist is telling you a story. The work invites you to find your own interpretation of the stories within.

*Singing and Dancing  
in the Rain*



*by  
Alison Ruzsa*

## 2017 PCA, Inc. Convention

The 2017 convention of the Paperweight Collectors Association, Inc. will be held in Norfolk, VA on Wednesday, April 26 through Saturday, April 29. The headquarter hotel is the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. The room rate is \$130 per night and is available for 3 days prior to and after the convention. One night's deposit is required at the time the reservation is made. Rooms must be booked no later than April 3, 2017. Reservations can be made by phone at 1-800-228-9290 (be sure to mention the PCA convention). You may also reserve your room by clicking on the link on the PCA website. Make your reservations early!

The affair begins with a guided tour of Norfolk, including the Norfolk Botanical Garden. You will then be taken to the Norfolk Naval Base where you will have a buffet lunch at one of the base clubs. The tour concludes with a stop at Doumar's, home of the world's first ice cream cone maker. Cost of this tour is \$75.

The convention itself kicks off on Wednesday evening with the opening of the artist and dealer fairs. Formal presentations are given Thursday through Saturday and antique collectors should enjoy such topics as one man's pursuit of the famous Russian Imperial Ring and Pantin paperweights. Modern makers will be well represented in talks by Melissa Ayotte and Cathy Richardson, as well as an artists' panel featuring Drew Ebelhare, David Graeber, Eric Hansen, and Jim Poore. Adding to the excitement will be Museum Hot Shop demonstrations on Friday afternoon by Mayael Ward/Gordon Smith, Damon MacNaught/Andrew Najarian, and David Graeber/Chris Sherwin/Clinton Smith.

Norfolk, VA is an easy day's drive for most DVPCA members, so we would like to see a great turnout from our group. If you are not already a member of PCA, this is an excellent opportunity to join – members get a reduced convention rate as well as four Newsletters per year and the PCA, Inc. Bulletin, a 120 page full color publication edited by your president.



*Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel*

## Mass Glass Musings

by John D. Hawley

One of the reasons that I enjoy collecting paperweights from the New England Glass Company and the Boston & Sandwich Glass Company is that different, often strange pieces emerge after years of being hidden away in someone's closet or collection. At least once a month I find something on eBay that I wish I had included in one of my books. Sometimes these pieces are attempts to duplicate a French or English paperweight, and sometimes they were obviously made to showcase a glassworker's skill. Such is the case with my first example of this series. Here we have a Boston & Sandwich poinsettia held within a clear glass hand which is attached to a round star cut base [Figures 1 and 2]. It's a fairly large paperweight related object, being 4 ¾" high. The paperweight is a standard design, a 6x6 petal configuration with a match head center decorated with goldstone. It is somewhat special, however, being a magnum at 3 5/8" diameter, in itself a rarity from the Sandwich factory.



*Figure 1*



*Figure 2*

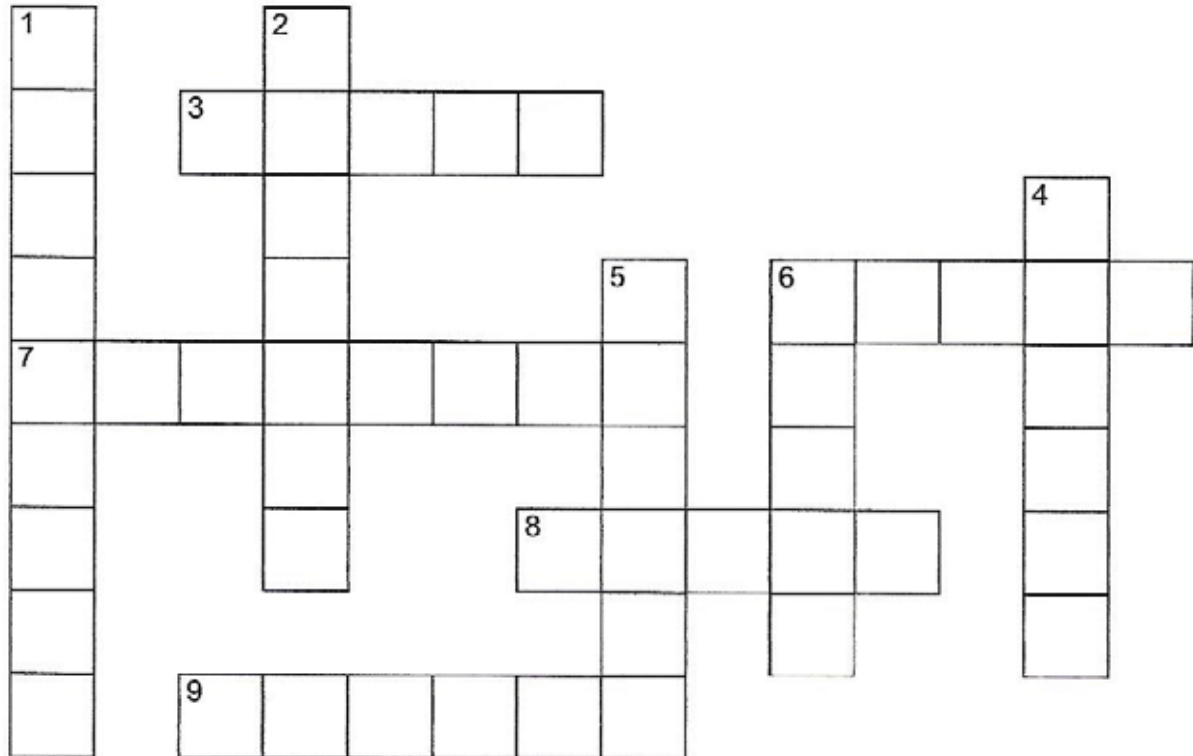




# FUN CORNER

## PAPERWEIGHT TERMS

### TERMS USED MAKING A PAPERWEIGHT



#### ACROSS

- 3 a facet cut on surface of a wt using a grinding wheel
- 6 circular rim around a concave base
- 7 a motif set flush into the ground
- 8 piece of wood with concave interior to shape the dome of the wt
- 9 molten glass gathered from the furnace

#### DOWN

- 1 steel rod used to dip into furnace to extract a gather of glass
- 2 used to melt glass
- 4 flat surface on which a gather of molten glass is rolled
- 5 metal ring placed around the jig holding canes
- 6 ingredients used to make glass

## The Scramble

If the newsletter looks different, it is because someone else is editing it. I confess it is I, Toby Hawley, who thought that it would be something I could do. Don Formigli did a fine job, but I wanted to give him a break. Anyway, here I am. To make this a better publication, I need members to submit articles, photos and such. Remember what I said that "it takes a village" and interesting articles to make this endeavor successful.

We received a note from Clara Gardner thanking us for the card DVPCA sent to Frank Gardner, who received it on his birthday. He is in a home now and the thought was appreciated.

If you are thinking about attending The PCA Convention in Norfolk, VA, it is time to book your room. This convention is one of the closest venues to DVPCA members. See accompanying article for details.

### CALENDAR

Advance Meeting Dates, Guests and Related Events

**April 8, 2017: Spring Meeting**  
**Guest Dealer: L.H. Selman**  
**Guest Artist: Andrew Najarian (coldworking and restoration)**

**April 26-29, 2017: PCA Norfolk, VA Convention**

**July 15, 2017: Summer Meeting**  
**Guest Dealer: Bill Pitt**  
**Guest Artist: David Graeber**

**October 21, 2017: Fall Meeting**  
**Guest Dealer: TBA**  
**Guest Artist: TBA**  
**25th Anniversary Celebration**


**SAVE THESE DATES AND PLAN TO ATTEND!**

**All Saturday Meetings at:  
 BUONA VIA RESTAURANT, HORSHAM, PA**



**PAPERWEIGHT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
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ACROSS: 3 - PUNTY 6 - BASAL 7 - NTAGLIO 8 - BLOCK 9 - GATHER  
 DOWN: 1 - PONTILROD 2 - FURNACE 4 - MARVER 5 - COLLAR 6 - BATCH

Crossword Puzzle Answers:

## Winter Meeting Announcement Saturday, January 28, 2017

At Buona Via Restaurant, 426 Horsham Road  
Horsham, PA 19044. Tel: 215-672-5595.

The restaurant is located north of PA Turnpike Exit 343 (Doylestown/Willow Grove). Take Easton Road (611) approximately 1.3 miles then left on Horsham Road. Buona Via is .6 miles on right.

**9:00 AM** Dealers and Artists setup

**10:00 AM** Paperweight Fair with Guest Dealers Leo Kaplan, Ltd. and Guest Artist Alison Ruzsa.

**11:00 AM** Presentation by Alison Ruzsa

**12 Noon** Lunch – Sale of raffle tickets.

**1:30 PM** Business Meeting: Announcements and reports.

**1:45 PM** Show and Tell.\*\* Members Favorite Paperweight..

**2:30 PM** Dealer Fair with Leo Kaplan, Ltd.

**\*\*NEW MEETING FEATURE:** Member Favorite Paperweight Show and Tell. Members are requested to bring their favorite paperweight to the meeting and be prepared to tell your fellow collectors all about it in a minute or two. We will have a live video feed that will project the weight onto the screen so that everyone in the audience will have a good view of it.

## 2017 Membership Dues

Thank you to all the members who have sent in the dues for 2017. However there are still 22 current members who have not renewed for 2017 as of January 5, 2017. Please send your checks made out to DVPCA to:

Don Formigli  
455 Stonybrook Dr.  
Levittown, PA 19055

## LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

January 28, 2017

### Luncheon Choices @ \$26 per person

These are the choices for this meeting. You do not have to make your selection until the meeting but Don must receive your reservation and payment by January 25.

#### SALAD

Choice of Classic Caesar or Mixed Greens with balsamic vinaigrette

#### ENTREE

Spinach Ravioli with tomato and basil sauce

or

Chicken Marsala with vegetable and potato of the day

or

Tilapia with white wine, lemon, and capers

#### DESSERT

Choice of two  
Coffee and Tea

Please mail this tear off slip with the (#) of persons \_\_\_\_\_ attending and their names

with \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Luncheon Total to:

### DVPCA

c/o Don Formigli, Treasurer  
455 Stonybrook Drive  
Levittown, PA 19055

**NO LATER THAN JANUARY 25, 2017**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Please send me information related to paperweights and glass: exhibits, travels, auctions, articles, photographs, ads, and such. My email address is tsksk2@verizon.net or call me at 856-751-7720. Complaints go to the president, not *that* president, DVPCA President John Hawley at jweight@verizon.net.



Address Service Requested

## PAPERWEIGHT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

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# L.H. Selman

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