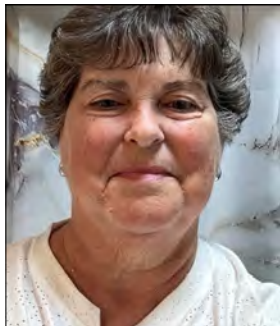


Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City

February 2026

A Message From Our President



By Connie Duncan

Happy New Year! I'm hoping each of you had a wonderful Holiday Season. It is hard to believe it is 2026, a whole new year and history ready to be made.

The biggest change for the club will be the meeting time moving from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Our meetings are the second Saturday, in the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December. By changing the meeting time, we are hoping many of you can join us at our meetings.

We hold the Gala in September. Your Gala Chair this year is Dan Madura, and this is not his first time handling this project. Dan will be handling room assignments this year. Max Iverson will be taking care of the auction and I will be helping him. If you can not reach either Dan or Max please contact me. You will find more information from Dan about the Gala on page 2 of this newsletter.

Wishing each and every one of you find that special piece of Fenton you are looking for.

Best wishes for 2026!

Connie

Very Special Thank You to Jackie Oglesby

By Connie Duncan

As our club starts the 2026 year with a new secretary, we would like to thank Jackie Oglesby for her 20 years as our secretary. Jackie joined the club in the late 1980s or early 1990s. She was elected secretary in 2005. Jackie has done an outstanding job as our secretary and has taken on many additional duties. She was also newsletter editor for 18 years.

Jackie worked for Deluxe Check Printers for 31 years on printing presses and retired in 2000. She went back to work after the loss of her husband, Jim. She worked for NBC, Na-



Jackie Oglesby holding a Fenton barber bottle during a presentation she gave at the June 2024 FFGKC club meeting.

tional Benefits Center, as a government contractor and retired from them at the age of 69.

Jackie's love for Fenton has grown over the years. Her collection focuses primarily on early decanters, ginger jars, and perfume bottles, with a particular fondness for stretch glass, acid-etched glass, and water sets. She is especially drawn to blue-tinted pieces. The 1930s represent a golden era of glassmaking for her, with many examples of some of the most beautiful colors and moulds created by Fenton.

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Next Meeting—NEW TIME

Meeting Date: February 14, 2026
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Sterling Full Gospel Church
3007 S. Sterling Ave.
Independence, Mo.
Program: Jackie Oglesby
Treats: Connie Duncan

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A Message From Our Vice President/Gala Coordinator

By Dan Madura

Happy New Year!

Save the dates! Gala 2026 is September 10-12, 2026.

With the ringing in of the New Year, we begin the process of planning the details of the 2026 Gala. We have already been in contact with the hotel to get details worked out so we can begin registration by early March.

I would like to announce the 2026 Gala committee:

Gala Chair/Communications: Dan Madura
Registration/Treasurer: Janet Wilke
Hospitality: Jackie Oglesby and Carol Rigsby
Glass Sales: Denise Adams
Auctions: Max Iverson and Connie Duncan
Big Display: Amanda Herman, Kristina Stanley, and Carol Rigsby
Social Services/Seminars: Deanna Iverson
Logistics: Craig Ricklefs and Bobbie Stanely



You may have noticed the committee grew a little this year. The Gala continues to grow. Therefore, so must the committee. Our intent is to spread responsibilities so the committee members can also have some time to enjoy the Gala. We have added a new committee position: Social Services/Seminars. This new position will be headed by Deanna Iverson. You may have seen some of the wonderful photos she took of “People of the Gala 2025.” These photos were posted on our Facebook page and are also on our website. This role will encompass photography, organizing games, and coordinating seminars.



The Big Display, headed by Amanda Herman, Kristina Stanley, and Carol Rigsby, will be themed “Fenton Celebrates America” to coincide with the 250th anniversary of our country. The display will consist of Red, White, and Blue glass, Fenton Bicentennial pieces, and any other glassware created by Fenton commemorating America. More details to come.

I will be heading up room assignments this year. I will send out an email blast when we get ready to open registration in early March. The rules/regulations we had in place last year will also apply this year with a few minor changes, which I will communicate in the email blast. I will not be ready to assign rooms until we open registration, so please do not contact me until then with your preference.

Cheers!

Dan



A Special Thank You for Holiday Party Decorations

The Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City would like to extend a very special *Thank You* to Kathleen Howard and Craig Ricklefs for sharing at the Holiday Party, the Fenton French Opalescent hobnail snow people they created.



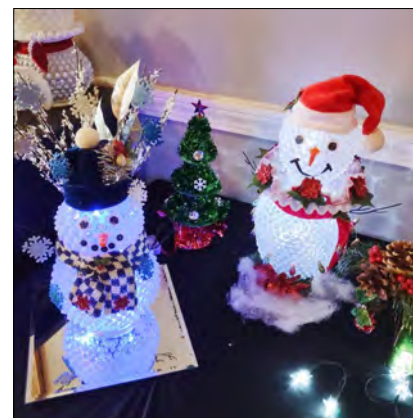
As you can see, there are several snowmen, but also an angel and a cat (a perennial Fenton collector favorite!).

Kathleen and Craig went one step further and donated one of their fun, Fenton creations as a door prize for the party! Thank you so much!!



How many different pieces of Fenton French Opalescent hobnail can you spot in these photos?

What other pieces of Fenton do you see?



Spreading Joy and Cheer at the Club Holiday Party!

By Jackie Oglesby

Sugar and Spice Catering was where 28 FFGKC club members gathered in North Kansas City on December 13, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. to celebrate another year of Fenton collecting. We enjoyed turkey and ham with trimmings from Sugar and Spice, plus a variety of desserts provided by our members.

After dinner, the club provided everyone with a Fenton glass door prize. I received a pink crest opalescent hobnail basket. There was a short business meeting where newly-elected vice-president Dan Madura announced he and Michelle Pennington, our new secretary, had won their elections. Congratulations to both.

We got updates on the Gala auction that will be handled jointly by Max Iverson and Connie Duncan in 2026. Amanda Herman gave us an update on the big display she is going to coordinate again this year. The theme is "Fenton Celebrates America."

After the meeting, we got down to the business of playing Dirty Bingo. I was the first person to call Bingo! and got my hands on a prize, however, it wasn't long before it was taken away from me. At the end we had four winners: Michelle Pennington,

Caitlan Cox, Sharon Scott, and Kathleen Howard were the big winners, three nice Fenton baskets and one slightly damaged Rosaline pitcher, sorry Sharon.



Please check out the table decorations; they were made by Kathleen Howard and Craig Ricklefs from French Opalescent hobnail glass. Craig donated one of the snowmen as a door prize. Joe Bradshaw won a prize for being the oldest person attending, Tim and Sarah Smith won one for traveling the farthest. Tim Smith took on the job of calling out the Bingo numbers, giving Dan and Connie a break this year. Four o'clock came way too soon and we wished all a very merry holiday and happy new year. Denise Adams organized this blowout for us, and she did a wonderful job of helping us enjoy the last and the most popular meeting of the year. We had so much fun visiting with everyone. Thank you, Denise, for your hard work—it's truly appreciated by everyone.

We hope everyone had a very wonderful Fenton holiday and hope you find all the beautiful Fenton glass that you desire in the new year.

REMEMBER: our meeting time has changed to 1:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of every other month beginning in February.



Our Holiday Party Dirty Bingo prize winners (L-R): Michelle Pennington, Caitlan Cox, Sharon Scott, and Kathleen Howard.

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More Joy and Cheer from the Club Holiday Party!

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Sarah Smith laughing with Peggy Hoyer, Rookie Hoyer, Kickie Murphy, and Sharon Scott.



Charles Crouse standing next to the Door Prizes.



Some of the charming snowmen created by Kathleen Howard and Craig Ricklefs from Fenton French Opalescent hobnail glass.



Left to right: Jackie Oglesby (sitting), Dan Madura (standing), Bobbie Stanley (back to us), Renee Brown, Kristina Stanley, Amanda Herman.



Glass folks always seem to be sharing their latest finds! Sam Scott is looking for just the right photo to share with Carol Rigsby and Janet Wilke, while Sharon Scott looks on.

Welcoming Our New FFGKC Club Secretary

By Connie Duncan

Please welcome our new club secretary, Michelle Pennington.

Michelle and her sister attended their first Gala in 2021 to just shop the rooms. She learned about the club from her husband, Todd, joining our Facebook page when she first started collecting glass around 2012. Her mother had a small collection which her two sisters and daughter-in-law split. Most of her mom's collection came from QVC. Michelle found out more about Fenton going to auctions and quickly learned there are no friends at auctions when it comes to bidding.



Michelle Pennington, our new FFGKC club secretary.

Her collection has grown a lot, with Favrene being a favorite. But she has a respectable collection of fairy lamps, candlesticks, Blue Burmese, Christmas trees and snowmen, as well as a smattering of all kinds of things, including lamps, nymphs, and certain cameo pieces. She also felt compelled to expand



her mom's collection of Misty Blue, Violet, and Trellis. Todd prefers black glass, so there is quite a bit of that in the collection as well. Outside of Fenton, she collects Cambridge Moonlight Blue Caprice, Victorian glass, and some depression glass (she loves Tiffin's Flower Garden and Butterfly).

Todd and Michelle have been married for almost 21 years. They have one daughter and a five-year-old grandson. Michelle's hobbies are gardening and glass collecting.

Fenton or Northwood?

In the early part of the 20th century, it was common when one glass company closed, for another one to purchase at least some of its moulds, then tweak them a little to distinguish their new product from the old company's product.

The small turtle-shaped flower block here is one example of this. The mould was originally made by Northwood, but when H. Northwood Co. closed in 1925, the mould was purchased by the Fenton Art Glass Co.

The photo shows both Fenton and Northwood turtles; but what is the key to identifying which company made which turtle? The blue and topaz turtles are Northwood, and they only have six holes.

When Fenton obtained the mould, they added two extra holes, one each at the neck and tail (see the Jade turtle in the photo), creating their ware #1564 Turtle Flower Block.



A Special Thank You

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She also collects Half Dolls and Czech perfume bottles.

If she sold her whole collection of Fenton, the very first thing she would do with the money is purchase another piece of Fenton, probably one she is unable to afford now. She laughingly stated that yes there is something wrong mentally wrong with her!

So, Jackie you have done a wonderful job as our secretary and please accept our warmest *Thank You* for a job well done!

Minutes of the FFGKC Meeting, December 13, 2025

The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City was called to order by our Vice-President, Dan Madura at 2:11 p.m.

A short meeting was held after we ate a wonderful dinner provided by Sugar and Spice at their catering location in North Kansas City. Dan announced the results of the election for Vice-President, Dan Madura won, and for Secretary, Michelle Pennington won. He also announced our new meeting time will be 1:00 p.m. starting with our February meeting. He thanked Craig Ricklefs and Kathleen Howard for arranging our snowman table decorations made from French Opalescent Hobnail glass.

Dan announced Max Iverson and Connie Duncan will now coordinate the Gala auction. Members who wish to sell glass should send them their auction lists promptly. Connie noted each item must be valued at \$35, but members may combine two or

three pieces to meet this requirement.



Dan Madura speaking during the business meeting portion of the party.

Amanda Herman announced the Big Display for the 2026 Gala will be "Fenton Celebrates America." She has requested submissions of Red, White, and Blue glass, Fenton Bicentennial pieces, and any other glassware created by Fenton that commemorates America.

After the meeting, we played Dirty Bingo with Tim Smith calling numbers. Three winners, Michelle Pennington, Caitlin Cox, Kathleen Howard, won Fenton baskets and Sharon Scott won a slightly damaged Fenton pitcher. Everyone took home at least one door prize and we left at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Oglesby
Secretary

Is it Fenton or Is it Not?

Non-Fenton Items Advertised as Fenton in Shops and On-Line

By Anne Blackmore

LaBelle Flint Opalescent Dew Drop Creamer



This large, hobnail flint opalescent creamer was recently spotted on eBay listed as Fenton. But this bumpy glass is far older than any Fenton piece. It was produced by the LaBelle Glass Works, of Bridgeport, .

LaBelle was in operation from 1871 to 1888. In their later years of operation, Harry Northwood worked for them, as their factory superintendent and

"metal maker" which according to *Harry Northwood The Early Years 1881-1900* by William Heacock, et. al. Heacock explains "metal maker" at that time was the man who determined the ingredients in the glass batch, or simply the glass chemist.

Dew Drop was introduced in 1886, and it is speculated the line was designed by Harry Northwood. It was available in crystal, flint opalescent, blue, blue opalescent, amber, canary, and perhaps other colors as well.



It is easily distinguished by the large hobs, distinctive square shape, and the large, post-like feet on the pieces.

Identifying Fenton's French Opalescent Hobnail

By Anne Blackmore

From 1940 through 1965, Fenton made a lovely pattern, *French Opalescent Hobnail*. It is a Crystal glass with opalescent hobs and edging. It is a favorite with collectors, is generally found easily, and is priced within most collectors' budgets.

But, there is a common stumbling block for newer collectors of Fenton's French Opalescent Hobnail. It is very similar to the Moonstone pattern by Anchor Hocking. It is quite common to see Anchor Hocking pieces mis-labeled on

eBay as Fenton and just as common to see just the opposite, Fenton labeled as Anchor Hocking's Moonstone. With the lovely and creative snowman decorations at the Holiday Party, it seemed a good time to share some pointers on how to differentiate these two types of glassware.

When viewed together, French Opalescent Hobnail and Moonstone pieces are remarkably similar in color. In fact, from a color and opalescent perspective, the pieces could be from the same line... but of course, they are not. Do not rely on color or level of opalescence to help you separate the two patterns.

The first and most significant difference is in the hobs themselves. Fenton's hobs are like teeny-tiny, pointy mountains. Unless the hobs have been stretched or pulled by the glassworker during the manufacturing process, or reheated quite a bit and literally melted back into the piece, they come to a distinct point.

Anchor Hocking's hobs are very low and very rounded. The best place to look at the hobs for verification is usually the body of the piece where no manipulation has taken place.



A mix of Fenton French Opalescent Hobnail and Anchor Hocking Moonstone pieces. The two divided dishes are Anchor Hocking, and the cornucopia, hat vase, and shaker are all Fenton.

Another major difference is in the bottoms (feet, bases, etc.). Anchor Hocking pieces have an exaggerated floral design, with many long, narrow petals, on the bottom. This is very evident on the bases of footed examples such as sugars and creamers, sherbet dishes, the footed tumbler, and the bud vase, and all plates and bowls. Even the three-part relish has this design on the bottom of each of the three sections.



Petal design on foot of Anchor Hocking goblet.

Fenton opted for a plain base on its pieces. There are some Anchor Hocking mould shapes with no floral design in the base, such as the cigarette box, but once the hobs are examined and found to be very low and very round, there is no doubt it is not a Fenton piece.



Plain foot on Fenton goblet.

The mould shapes are also quite different between the two companies. It is very helpful to have several Fenton books in your personal library to help you learn to identify Fenton shapes. John Walk has written several books about Fenton which include the Hobnail lines, as have Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer. These authors have put together excellent resources to ensure Fenton collectors have the best information available at their fingertips. Invest in books and read them often. You will learn something new every time you pick one up.



Powder boxes. Above: Anchor Hocking's Moonstone pattern. Below: Fenton's French Opalescent Hobnail. Know your shapes!

Lastly, Anchor Hocking's pieces were made by machine. That means you will see very

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Fenton Advertisements from Butler Brothers' Catalogs

Recently, I was reading through some old copies of Butler Brothers' catalogs. It was fascinating to see all the advertisements for so many of the glass companies of the day, including Fenton Art Glass Co. And take note of the wholesale prices. Yup, that's 36 cents for an entire table set, 62 cents for a carnival pitcher with six tumblers, and 92 cents for either a dozen powder boxes or a dozen hatpin holders.

I thought it would be fun to share some of the Fenton ads through time with the FFGKC readers, and maybe make some of these ads like a little quiz.

Below are three advertisements. The first is from the Fall 1908 Butler Brothers' catalog. Do you know the pattern name? How about some of the other treatments Fenton produced it in?

The other two ads are from the April 1913 Butler Brothers' catalog. Both ads are for what we now call "carnival" glass. Do you know the pattern names in the two advertisements? How about other treatments they were produced in?

Check on page 10 for the answers to this advertising quiz.

SATIN ETCHED LILY DECORATED SET ASSORTMENT.

You will be surprised at the extraordinary values. This low price will enable you to double your profit.



CX948—All over satin etched crystal bodies, alternating water lily and tropical foliage embossing, flowers filled in with rich wine ruby, leaves in green. Asst. comprises:
 4 only 7 pc. water sets— $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. jug and SIX tumblers.
 4 only 7 pc. berry sets— $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. extra deep round bowl, SIX $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. nappies.
 6 only large 4 pc. table sets—butter dish, sugar bowl, cream pitcher and spoon holder.
 Total 12 sets in box.

Per set, **36c**

BUTLER BROTHERS, 495 and

Left: from the Fall 1908 Butler Brothers catalog.

Lower left: from the April 1913 Butler Brothers catalog

Lower right: from the April 1913 Butler Brothers catalog.

IRIDESCENT AND DECORATED WATER OR LEMONADE SETS.



C1870, "Iridescent Grapevine"— $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. jug, ht. $11\frac{1}{4}$ in., tumblers $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., relief grape cluster and lattice embossing, golden iridescent finish. 1 set case, 9 lbs.

Set. **62c**

IRIDESCENT GLASS DRESSING TABLE SPECIALTIES.

2 big sellers in this rich popular ware.



C848, Covd. Puff Box— $3\frac{3}{4}$ x $4\frac{1}{4}$, orange blossom and bead embossing, royal and golden bending. 1 doz. box. Doz. 92c

C849, Hatpin Holder— $6\frac{1}{2}$ in., as C848. 1 doz. box. Doz. 92c

Don't these prices make you wish for a time machine??

Identifying Fenton's French Opalescent Hobnail

(continued from page 8)



Anchor Hocking's machine-made glass all looks the same.

little variation between multiples of the same mould shape. All small berry bowls will be waved on the top edge in the same manner and will stack very neatly together. The same will happen with all larger bowls and all three-part relishes. There is little, if any, handwork done on these pieces. The same mould shapes all have the same depth of opalescence, in the very same places. All the pieces look just like one another. Anchor Hocking did not use any "pie crust" crimping like Fenton did.

Fenton's pieces were all handmade. While the mould shape is the same from piece to piece, the amount of handwork done by Fenton craftsmen made each piece very different from the next. Even

ry Fenton piece is unique - one has more opalescence than another, one is slightly taller, one is double crimped, one is left plain with no crimping. Stand two or more of the same mould piece next to one another, and it is easy to see the subtle differences between the individual items. There are infinite variations between pieces and absolutely no two Fenton items are exactly the same.



Two Fenton #389 vases highlighting the differences in handmade glass. Note variances in height, opalescence, and crimping.

It can be easy to confuse Anchor Hocking's Moonstone with Fenton's French Opalescent Hobnail, but if you study these differences, it should be much easier to distinguish between the two.

Advertising Quiz Answers and More

The Fall 1908 advertisement is for Fenton's Waterlily and Cattail in crystal satin etch, with the relief elements highlighted with ruby and green paint or stain. We've never seen these pieces with the green and ruby colored elements. Perhaps the color was not fired on and it came off with use and washing.



Waterlily and Cattail was also produced in White opalescent, Green opalescent, Blue opalescent, Amethyst opalescent, and Chocolate glass.



The second advertisement, found in the April 1913 catalog is Fenton's Lattice and Grape pattern. The small ad shows the pitcher with six tumblers being sold in a case, for what we now consider a mere 62 cents at the wholesale

level. Back in 1913, 62 cents would have approximated to \$43.00 in 2025 dollars.

It is known to have been produced in the carnival glass colors of: Marigold, Green, Royal Blue, Amethyst, and White. The pitcher mould was also used to make vases in some of the later colors including Jade, Ruby, and Mongolian Green.

The third advertisement also came from the April 1913 catalog. It shows two items from Fenton's Orange Tree line. According to *Fenton Art Glass 1907-1939* by Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer, Orange Tree was one of the most popular of all Fenton's carnival glass patterns.



On the left is the puff box and on the right is the hatpin holder. Both are known in Marigold, Green, and Royal Blue carnival. Both pieces are also known in Chocolate Glass.

Finds from the Road

Curiouser and Curiouser!



By Anne Blackmore

A short while ago, as Max and I were headed to a show, we stopped at an antique mall in Illinois. We don't get here very often because it is located such that we are either going past and it is too early for it to be open, or it is too late and we've missed their open hours. So we took advantage of this mall being open when we had time to stop.

We were having a nice time, enjoying the classic rock music on the overhead sound system. Casing booth after booth, we started to find a few things... a pretty little Consolidated lamp, a Tiffin black base, a couple pieces of Viking, even a cute mid-century modern pink sparkly mushroom brooch!

A little further on we found a booth with several Fenton critters, all marked with tags like, "green cat" for a Fenton emerald green hand painted sitting cat. Then we came across a real head-scratcher.

I really like Fenton's Jacqueline pattern of the 1960s, and due to space constraints at home, will usually just admire it, look at price tags, and move on. In the back of one booth at this mall was a Honey Amber Overlay 6-inch vase sitting on a small lamp base. It seemed odd to me to set a vase on what looked like a potentially unstable surface. As I picked up the "vase" though, the realization it was not a vase came quickly. Instead of a marie, there was a fitter for it to truly fit into a lamp. Oh wow!

Max came back to check on what was taking me so long, and sighed. Here I was looking at my third piece of Jacqueline since we arrived. Then I tipped the end up to him and his eyes got big too. He quietly said, "Lamp shade?"

We agreed it had to be. The



fitter, or part that drops down from the "vase" and allows the piece to fit into a lamp, is quite a bit longer than if the base of a regular vase had simply been trimmed off, and it projects straight off the base, rather than being curved to allow a snap rod to hold onto it.



Comparing the bases of a regular Jacqueline vase (left) with the Jacqueline lamp shade (right) we found.

According to *Fenton Art Glass Patterns 1939-1980*, by Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer, Jacqueline was introduced in 1960, and named after the First Lady, Jacqueline Kennedy. It was produced in blue, pink, and yellow opaline in 1960. In 1961, those colors were discontinued and milk glass, and the overlay colors of Apple Green, Powder Blue, Coral, Honey Amber, and Wild Rose were introduced. While the milk glass shakers were continued until June 1962, the remainder of the line was discontinued at the end of 1961.

The Whitmyer book lists five shapes produced in Honey Amber overlay: a pitcher, shakers, sugar and creamer, and two different vases. No where in any of the color listings is there a lamp shade. While this is interesting and curious, it may simply mean Fenton did not have any of these lamp shades in stock at inventory time. Or, it could be something really unique! Neither Max nor I are certain of its status, just that we have never seen one before.

While the Jacqueline shade was not as much of a screaming deal as some things we've found, it was quite reasonable for something so interesting. Of course, it came home with us



We don't know what lamp this shade was intended to be paired with. It fits nicely on a small metal base designed for a candle lamp we had in storage.

Happy Hunting, dear friends!

