

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

The next meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be OCTOBER 8TH, 2022 at the Sterling Full Gospel Church located at 3007 S. Sterling Ave., Independence, MO. The meeting will start at 7:00PM.



Our beautiful set up for the Gala big display, Fenton Glass that Glows under normal lights



The same beautiful glass under a Black Light





Here are three of our favorite people getting ready for glass id, Max Blackmore with Sarah Smith and Anne Blackmore, all three did a wonderful job of getting information to our members about the glass that they had questions about, even if Max was stuck saying mostly, "What they said."

Our October newsletter features information on the Gala, with many pictures to celebrate our event. We hope that everyone who did not get to come to the Gala enjoys the pictures and for everyone who came we hope it brings a smile to your face. We had many old friends that we got to hug, and visit with, and we made many new friends. For those who were here they had a chance to buy some special glass made just for the Gala. Many of those are on websites already for resale but more went home with members who we hope will enjoy having them for years to come. Now for our small table displays. These pictures do not do them justice.



A wonderful collection of Fenton's Cigarette boxes and Elephant Liquor bottles, very hard to find and put together in one place.



Some lovely and rare pieces of Peach Crest



Fenton fishes of all kinds, from Sunfish to offhand, how gorgeous



Do you have the time? What a wonderful collection of Fenton clocks!



An elegant display of French Opalescent Hobnail



Fabulous Topaz Thumbprint Opalescent, what more needs to be said!

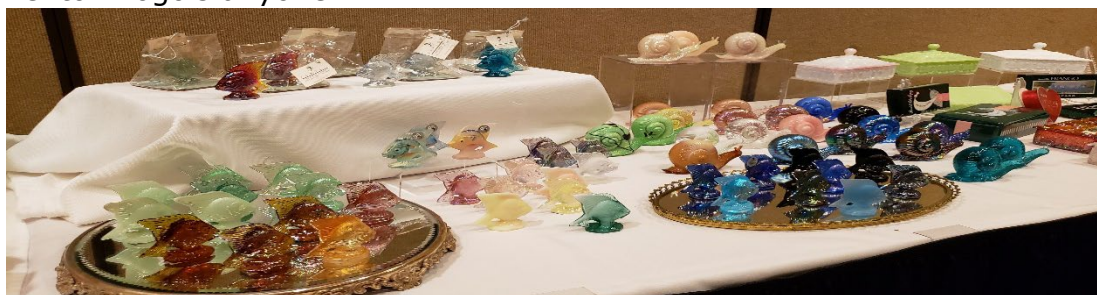


Fenton decanters above and below a wonderful display of Big Cookies





Fenton Logo's anyone?



Fenton's beautiful Sunfish with Fenton's Snails and hard to find Candy Boxes made to hold Frango Chocolates for Marshall Fields.



A few examples of Fenton's wonderful hard to find baskets.



More hard to find Fenton Glass decorated by AWCO, the Charleton Line



This wonderful table was created to honor the memory of Tom Smith, many of these items were featured in his book *Early Fenton Rarities* or would have been if there had been room or they had been found at the time he wrote the book. The table included a #349 13" Crystal Bowl with a Tartan Etch, only one known and just found and named.



A table full of wonders by Dave Fetty, Frankie Workman and Delmar Stowasser as well a sample of the beautiful work by the European Glassmakers of the 1920's



And last but not least a table full of Fenton's Bud Vases, with so many different sizes with shapes, and designs including one painted and signed by M. Dickinson

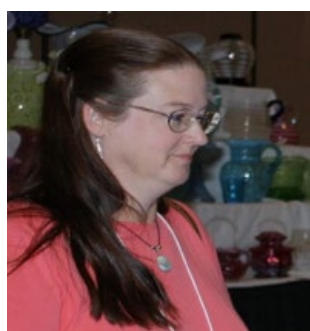
For more and better pictures of these wonderful tables go to our website, <http://www.FentonfindersKC.net> or check out our Facebook page.



CC Hardiman with the aid of Karen Easton gave a demonstration of painting on glass for our afternoon seminar on Friday. CC had many stories that she shared with us while she worked on the beautiful vase on the above right. Which one lucky bidder won in our Saturday night whimsy auction. CC also demonstrated how work was done at the Fenton Factory by painting 25 polar bears, very quickly. All twenty-five were quickly sold after the seminar with instructions on how to fire the pieces in a regular oven.

Friday night Tom Limbeck presented the big display that he and Craig Ricklefs put together for us. As can be seen from the pictures on page one of the newsletter it was awesome. Thank you, Tom, Craig for all your hard work.

Lastly, we enjoyed a fun auction Saturday morning and a wonderful banquet that night. Each year at the banquet we pick out one piece of glass to sale and donate the proceeds to a worthy cause. This year it was to the Veteran's Community Project that was started in Kansas City but is now expanding to other cities. This project provides tiny homes for homeless vets. It gives them a place to live and a chance to get on their feet. We collected over \$2000 for this project from our members and just want to say thank you all for your kindness.



Finds from the Road

But *Everyone* has been Here Already!

By Anne Blackmore

A few weeks before the Kansas City Gala, Max and I decided we needed a shopping trip, so we headed out to on one of our "routes" a couple hours from home.

We had a terrific day, hitting three nice antique malls, and even a new "atomic" mall specializing in mid-century modern items. We bought Fenton (lots of Fenton!), some Cooperative Flint, some Department 56, and even a couple of nice big L.E. Smith vases.

But the best find came from what might seem like a rather unexpected place, an indoor flea market! These wonderful places, known for their wide variety of merchandise, have provided us everything from used clothing to kitchen tools to crazy good glass.

Today though, instead of just walking our normal pattern, we thought to start with our favorite booth, where we have found great Fenton lamps a couple of times. This meant we just hurriedly walked past several booths near the front of the store getting to the aisle where the lamp booth is. Max walks faster than I do, so trailing behind something caught my eye - a purple pitcher with a lid. I called him back to me excitedly.

He was back next to me in a moment, and I pointed to the pitcher. He got excited fast! I had not noticed the handle was blue and he did right away. He also noticed the floral and vine cutting around the belly of the pitcher, and I pointed out the same cutting around the finial on the lid. More excitement! This was Fenton's #220 lemonade pitcher with lid in Wisteria.

Wisteria was a deep, burgundy-colored glass produced by Fenton in the 1921 through 1928 time period. Most of it was iridized and considered to be stretch glass, but some, like this pitcher, was left uniridized. While uniridized Wisteria is not rare, it is less commonly found, than the stretch glass version.

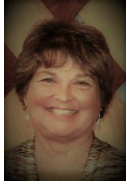
Max picked up the pitcher, handing me the lid. We both felt for chips and other defects by running our fingertips over the glass. He held the pitcher by the base and "tinged" it with his fingernail, both on the body and on the handle a couple of times. Each ting rang a pure tone, indicating no cracks or repairs. When a piece is cracked or has been repaired by an amateur, the ring will instead be a "clunk".

Now for the scary part. We both reached for the price tag. Oh wow, does that really show a price less than \$35.00? How can someone price a piece of glass that nice for so little money? Yes, indeed, that bad boy was coming home with us!

It was a joy seeing everyone at the Fenton Gala. It's hard to believe it will be a whole year before we gather once more. We miss you all already. Happy hunting, dear friends!

Thank you, Anne, it was wonderful seeing you and Max again.

And now a word from our vice president, Connie Duncan.



Gala 2022 is over and 2023 is in the planning. We would like to thank everyone who helped in any way or attended. Yes, we have a Gala committee, but the committee can always use your help from setting up or tearing down the big display to working the hospitality room to running glass at the auction. If you would like to help Gala 2023, please contact me, and let me know what you would like to help with.

Someone is always asks me the questions about the Gala, here are the answers. We had 111 registered for the Gala. The luncheon had 96 meals served. Banquet had a change in menu this year with 102 joining us. Annual Saturday morning auction had 78 bidders to purchase Fenton. Excited to say we had 15 individual educational table displays.

CC and Karen did a wonderful job with a very informative seminar. CC makes painting on glass look so easy. It was interesting to learn about the different types of paint and strokes to paint a design. They both talked about working in the painting department and the Fenton Company. The club would like to thank them for all they have done for the us.

Tom and Craig worked on putting all the glass together for the big display and arranging it. Dan was our master at getting the lighting fixed to make the glass glow. Each year the big display tops the year before.

The hospitality room is always a busy place. Jackie always has a plan and this year had someone new learning the ropes. Thank you, Carol, for stepping up to help. Our hospitality room is the best and if you leave hungry, I would say it is your fault.

The Saturday morning auction gives you the chance to add to your collection or start a new one. I would like to thank Dan and Claudia Hegwald for all the help they gave me on sitting the auction up. Claudia thank you for clerking the auctions this year.

Janet has a huge responsibility taking care of the financial part and registration. If you have a question about current and past Gala's Janet has the answer.

Our President, Dan Madura keeps everything together. Dan moved our club into the 21st Century by developing the new website and online registration which 95% of our members used to register for the Gala. Dan also spent many hours with the hotel making sure everyone needs were meet.

Dan, Denise, and Andrew took care of the glass sales room. We had some fantastic glass for sale this year. You had to be registered, attending the Gala and be a club member in order to purchase this glass.

The Gala was a huge success this year due to all that attended and our Gala committee. Be sure and put next year's date September 14-16 on your calendar. Check our website at <http://www.FentonfindersKC.net> and our Facebook page Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City.

Connie Duncan

Thank you, Connie.

Another year has passed, and another Gala is a memory. Our website will soon have pictures posted, both of the Gala and Gala glass for sale. Keep checking and if you want to see some of our wonderful glass and displays now check out our Facebook page. There are a lot of pictures there now with posts from our members. We will soon be planning Gala 2023 and are hoping to see you all there, joining us for fun and a little bit of education. Remember the best way to collect glass (or anything) is to learn as much as you can about it and these conventions, in West Virginia and here in Kansas City are where you can easily meet the people who know the most about glass and are very willing to share their knowledge with you.

We want to take a minute to thank CC Hardman and Karen Easton for their wonderful seminar, I was unable to get the vase that CC painted but I am keeping a picture of that wonderful piece (also missed out on the polar bears, darn it) we also want to thank Anne and Max Blackmore for doing glass id for us again this year as well as walking the small tables and reviewing the glass on them and we want to give special thanks to Sarah Smith for joining them and stepping into the very big shoes of Melvin Lampton. She is a wonderful addition to our Gala, and we offer her a special thank you for all she did. Jim Wroda is always wonderful, Jim and his wife, Laura do so much for the Gala, and we cannot thank them enough for what they do. Needless to say, we want to thank all the Gala committee people, and the list is long, for all their work, it takes all of us working together to make the Gala special, and we hope that we can continue to do this, but it can only be done if we get the support of our members. Which we have, thank you all, for your help in setting up the display, tearing it down, working in the hospitality room, setting up and working in glass sales and setting up the auction and walking the glass. Since there is no way that I can list all the names without missing someone because there are so many who have helped us, please accept our thanks and my apologies for not putting your name here, you know who you are, please know also that we cannot do this without you. Thank you.

We were sad this year to miss Melvin and Norma Lampton, Melvin is taking care of Norma who is ill. Melvin and Norma have been a big part of the Gala since the beginning and have worked on the Gala committee in the past, they are missed. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. We also missed Ken and Ellen Stohler as well as Randy Clark due to illness. We missed all of you and hope to see your smiling faces next year.

Please keep Steve and Debbie Claxton in your thoughts and prayers, Steve will have surgery for a heart blockage on the 27th. Both were at the Gala and there seemed to be no problems, so this is unexpected. Debbie reports that everything should work out fine but asks for your prayers to help Steve. Steve and Debbie have been with us a long time, she was the first Fenton dealer to start selling online

so many of us know them because of that but we know them best by their support of the Gala and our club and the big smiles that they always greet everyone with. Our thoughts prayers are with Steve and Debbie, hoping for a safe surgery and a quick recovery for Steve.

It is now time to look to the future and the meeting in October will be a very important meeting for our club and it will help determined in which direction our club will go. Not only will our members be bringing glass that they got at the Gala to brag – I mean share with other members, but we will be nominating officers for the club. This year we will be nominating someone for the position of President and someone for the position of Treasurer. If you are interested in putting your name in the running for either of these positions, please come to this meeting. If you are interested in one of these positions but are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Connie Duncan, Fenton123@aol.com and she will make sure you are nominated. Along with that please send information about yourself and a picture to stogles@yahoo.com so the information can be placed in the November newsletter and all our members will get a chance to get to know you before the election in November.

Our program in October will be on Gala glass, please bring in any pieces that you got at the Gala to share with the club. Or pick out the best pieces. If anyone got the polar bear that CC painted be sure to bring that one in, only 25 were available. If you have something for show and tell, please bring that in as well. Until October 8th enjoy our cooler weather, we are, and stay safe while hunting that special piece of Fenton.

See you soon!

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary