

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The next meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be JUNE 10TH, 2023 at the Sterling Full Gospel Church located at 3007 S. Sterling Ave., Independence, MO. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

The wonderful display of Fenton's Grecian Gold provided by Tom Limback made more than one person interested in collecting this beautiful glass. His collection featured many pieces that had wheel cutting on them as well as pieces that were plain, both were beautiful. Pictured above with Tom's glass is Dan Madura, who is taking some pictures for our Facebook page and Melvin Lampton and Rita Ellwein who are discussing rather or not Rita had a chance to take home a Charleton lamp the Melvin brought in for show and tell (she took it home, smiling all the way). For those who would like more information about Grecian Gold Tom Limback has included more information on Grecian Gold in this newsletter. Until then check out the message from Dan Madura and Connie Duncan.

121 Days, 2 Hours, 28 Minutes!!

A joint Gala update from Dan and Connie:

As of the writing of this article, 5/16, the countdown clock to the beginning of the Gala, 9/14, on our website is ticking away. We are only four months away!

The hotel bookings have been extraordinarily strong for the Gala this year. There are plenty of rooms still available.

If you plan on selling glass out of your room and wish to be on the second floor, unfortunately it is full. We are reserving rooms on the third floor. There will be signage on the second floor and other key areas that glass is also for sale on the third floor. Contact Connie Duncan soon, if you wish to do this.

Call/Text: (913) 634-4544

Email: fenton123@aol.com

Here is the information to book your room:

Online:

https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=MKCPDES&arrivalDate=2023-09-13&departureDate=2023-09-17&groupCode=FGA&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink&bm-verify=AAQAAAAH_9scoLQUzoDy3dxcndvEV9ncPXD4z1x3_c3QZvxLeviAxGzjOjFNUhI3ub4Ib4Owo1YgsgNjiuKTpF648RhgluBYbLzjzZCOgAUOm_bpkCLpleNo7fBUSd7zj4MgJPfOYLifGxijkx0iVIfQi2dbR460E3k_t8PKHdJFlorS6Iz1uXH6FUDCHbu8t7gK4rg5BiLxgoQwml4IbpLdLcUdR6ovAn74KC3f2b0PgH_UQcAnZpxUK5_bdZYqmO5ZUJ-Jg1AkNoeydwVI-apLxUPXBCQXiN4JjzeioOXi3e019EfnVuatTKVDPckc_XxTGrdLKMb-XDebgmIUHMPmLZFcfqhmziz1tHYN4AQAQi1ob9GrvS2qor7vN_2QSEVR6sscYb-kCHhcbpT97sY4CfXhOaVI3gJgHXelK2Z5tzZQCEMtPRnRI226ik5SbMLOYBDeLB932-iJk5L6uruaVDXi_yjw1XWVXzjDDY3d4BYa-YLeEI3a_lkIfmFJcU9h7QG5IrrVk4ZRcSIz0yRYa1YFGsPpFal7c

Copy and paste this link into your browser. This newsletter is done as a .pdf file. Links in this format usually don't "click" right. You can also go to our website and get the link (below).

Our website:

The most current information is available on our website.

www.fentonfiderskc.net

Call Direct:

(816) 891-7788 Ask for the "Fenton Glass Gala" rate.

Some key dates to remember:

- August 14th: The registration rate will increase by \$5, from \$35 to \$40.
- August 23rd: The Gala rate of \$132/per night will no longer be available. After that date, you can still book a room, but you will be at the going hotel rate and that time of booking.

The best way to get up-to-the-minute information is by going to our website.

www.fentonfiderskc.net

There you can:

- Find a link to book your room.
- Register online.
- See auction pictures and information.
- Get contact information if you want to sell glass out of your room.
- Information and a form on how to volunteer.

- Find daily events.
- How to go about offering an individual table display in the big glass display room.
- Find instructions and forms to mail in registrations and phone numbers for hotel reservations.
- Many more details
- **New! Archives:** Check out the new section on Gala's past. Many great pictures and videos. This is still under construction, but more will be added.

Online registration has been VERY popular. Thanks to all who have tried it out. We have had many compliments on how easy it is to register. Registering online is very secure, probably more so than mailing in your registration.

Individual table displays are still available. These are the tables that line the walls in the big glass display room (Salon E). This is an opportunity to show attendees your special collections. These will be walked and discussed at our Friday morning seminar. Many interesting and educational discussions occur at the seminar.

The 2023 Gala big display will be on crests. Les Rowe will be our main speaker during the luncheon with his display on unusual crests. If you would like to contribute to the big display, please contact: Tom Limback telimback@aol.com 816-868-2812

We need volunteers!

The Gala takes a lot of time to plan and run. It would be much appreciated to donate time. Even a small donation of your time would be appreciated. Here are some ways you can help:

Hospitality set-up and staffing

- Wednesday (set-up only)
- Thursday (staffing)
- Friday (staffing)
- Saturday (staffing)
- Saturday (tear down)

Big Display

- Wednesday afternoon (riser set-up)
- Wednesday evening (glass set-up)
- Saturday afternoon (tear down)

Auction

- Thursday (set-up)
- Saturday morning (glass walkers and bid spotters)
- Saturday afternoon (whimsey set-up)

Club glass sales

- Wednesday (set-up)
- Sunday morning (tear down)

Registration Table

- Thursday afternoon
- Friday morning

To volunteer, please go to the website link below. Scroll down to "HELP VOLUNTEER AT OUR ANNUAL GALA". Tell us what you would like to help with. Please be specific: job, day, and time available. Even if you can do an hour here and there, just let us know on the form.

<https://fentonfinderskc.net/gala-2023>

If you cannot submit through our website, which is the best and easiest way, please contact Dan Madura: dmadura.ffogkc@gmail.com 816-560-3738.

We are so looking forward to seeing everyone at the Gala!

Dan Madura, President

Connie Duncan, Vice President

We have the menus for the luncheon and dinner banquet:

Luncheon

Mixed Green Salad

With Sliced Cucumbers, Cherry Tomatoes, Julienne Carrots and Croutons
Dressing choices: Ranch, Balsamic, and Raspberry Vinaigrette.

Chicken Breast with Sun-dried Tomato Cream Sauce

With Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Apple Pie

Bread service, water, and iced tea

Dinner

Spinach Salad

With Dried Cranberries, Candied Walnuts and Feta Cheese tossed with a Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing.

8 oz. Sirloin Steak

With Rosemary Demi Glaze (brown sauce), Roasted Potatoes, and County Style Green Beans.

NOTE: All steaks will be cooked to medium.

Crème Brûlée with Fruit AND Ultimate Chocolate Cake with Mousse Filling

These two deserts will be alternately set. Feel free to switch or share. They both sounded yummy, so this is a way to do both!

Bread service, water, iced tea, coffee, and Assorted Hot Herbal Teas.

Connie had some extra information for us as well. Please take note as it is important for everyone who wants to be on the second floor to make sure that they have reserved their rooms before the cut-off date of June 1st.

If you are a prior seller and have reserved a room on the second floor (by contacting Connie and requesting the room) but have not made reservations by June 1st with the HOTEL your room will be made available to another seller. If you are a seller who has made reservations at the hotel and have been told you are on the third floor you will be moved to the second floor if and when a room becomes available. Those who made their reservation at the hotel first will be moved to the second floor first.

Thank you, Dan and Connie, wow, that is a lot of information. We can assure everyone that there will be some cancellations due to sickness or other issues so just because the room you are assigned to now is on the third floor does not mean that will be where you end up. Please keep in mind that that just because you make a reservation at the hotel now doesn't

mean that if something comes up and you are unable to attend the Gala that you cannot cancel the reservation. We want everyone to have a good time and maybe learn something more about the glass that we all love where having it.

Please let us know if you can help anywhere to help create this fun event. It takes many hands to make a Gala. It is also a lot of fun to work with friends to create the fun event that we want the Gala to be for everyone who comes. It is not too soon to mention that the hospitality room will also need treats, salads, and desserts from members. The club does supply a lot with the BBQ dinner but the generous donations for homemade or store brought food is a big help to feed everyone and something that everyone enjoys. All monetary donations as well as food for the hospitality room go to the hospitality room so that every member can enjoy their stay at the hotel and not feel like they must leave to go get something to eat every day of the Gala. Of course, there are antique malls and shopping nearby that might make you want to get out. However, it looks like we already have a lot of rooms to shop at the hotel. Please let Dan know if you have an hour or two to help with the Gala and be sure to bring some treats that our members can enjoy. For those who would like to send a paper copy of the registration form by mail to Janet Wilke you will find the form on our website as Dan and Connie indicated or you may cut out the last page of the newsletter that has the registration form printed for your convenience.

And now a word from Anne Blackmore



Finds from the Road

And this is no fish story!

By Anne Blackmore

A few months back, Max and I realized we were short on dog food and needed to make a Sam's Club run for it. We have two clubs about an hour and a half away from us we can visit and incorporate good antiquing, so those are the two clubs we generally hit up for our dog food. But that day, we were short on time and kind of needed to get it and get home. So we looked up the next actual closest club, which sent us into Indianapolis. Checked the club website and it said they had the food.

We got there, no dog food. Arrrrgh. Now we had to regroup and find another option. Sure enough, there was another club about 30 minutes south. Their website said they had the dog food, so off we went. Thankfully, they actually did have it. But now, the rush is in full swing with the nine-to-fivers heading home. Max asked if I wanted to stop at a close-by antique mall. We needed to get home but would spend just as much time sitting in traffic as at the mall, so off we went to the antique mall!

This mall has distinct north and south wings, and we almost always go south to start. We took our time walking around, looking in all the nooks and crannies and did not find a thing. Even though we were just there to fill time it would still be nice to find *something*. After completing the south wing, we made our way through the entrance area to the north wing.

The first booth on the left is one where we often find nice Fenton. So, we stopped to give this booth the serious once-over. We got about halfway round, and Max stopped and just looked, and I gasped and reached in. Here was a blue opalescent sword fish on a base. It was about five inches tall, and it was stunning! I was feeling it over and could not feel any chips or damage. I passed it to Max and as he was feeling and looking it over, we talked about it having been made by Duncan and Miller and we were both pretty sure it was a very good piece. It was marked with an incredibly low price, and even if we had it wrong, we liked it well enough to add it to our collection.

Happily, we were not wrong. Upon our arrival home, we looked it up in *Glass Animals* by Dick and Pat Spencer. It had indeed been produced by Duncan and Miller, and it was made in two colors, crystal and blue opalescent. In the crystal, it was made in three mould variations (the differences are mostly observed in the large back fin) and in the blue opalescent, it was made in two mould variations (again, the primary variation appears in the large dorsal fin). These Sail Fish were part of Duncan and Miller's Pall Mall line and were produced in the 1940s. According to the book, the blue opalescent Sail Fish carries a *significant* retail value, well over \$500.

We were getting ready for a show out east and decided to prepare the fish for the show. The first day, no one even looked at it. The second day, one person asked for our best price, but then walked away. About 20 minutes before the show closed, I told Max because no one seemed interested in the fish, I was going to take it home and add it to our collection. He agreed that was a good idea.

Just after our conversation, Max stepped away from the booth to speak with another dealer, and a moment later, the lady who had asked for the price came back and decided she was going to buy the fish! Turns out she was heavily involved in the Duncan and Miller Museum, and she was planning to have the fish in her collection for a while, then putting it in the museum. So, while we will miss the amazing beauty of this Sail Fish in our collection, it is gratifying to know it is headed back home again for the Duncan and Miller Museum visitors to appreciate.

Happy fishing, I mean *hunting*, dear friends!

Thank you, Anne. What a wonderful find and great story. As with Amanda's article on selling glass that follows this, your story reminds us that research is the name of the game. If we do not take the time to research the glass that we love, we will leave that beautiful Duncan Miller's Sail Fish in the display booth. And how wonderful that it ended up going into the Duncan Miller Museum so many people can enjoy it instead of just one or two.



What to do with glass that no longer fits into your collection?

By Amanda Herman

Do you have glass sitting around that doesn't bring you joy anymore or, gasp!, is a duplicate? Have you wondered what you should do when you are ready to part

with some or all of your collection? There are many, many options out there, some you can do yourself, and some by hiring professionals.

Jason and I got involved in Fenton many years ago purely as collectors. I never planned on selling my glass, I couldn't part with a single item. But then, I noticed our house was getting fuller and fuller and we had two options, part with some or get a bigger house. Well, we ended up with the bigger house anyway, but also dipped our feet in the selling market. We started very small, just walked around the house, and found a few duplicates or small items that didn't fit my decorating schemes anymore and started our research. As we know about anything dealing with our glass, research is key. Jason decided that Facebook groups looked like a good option for us, so he joined one or two at the time. Now there are many groups to choose from and many pages on which you can sell. Of course, there are also numerous other platforms that can be used, eBay, Poshmark, Etsy, Mercari, etc., and Facebook now has their own Marketplace option as well. Each platform has its own rules, rates, and selling format. A lot of where you choose to sell will be based on how much you are selling and how involved in the process you want to be. For instance, eBay is great for a few items to be listed at a time and doesn't require much work once you have it posted. You set your minimum acceptable price and the end date of the auction and let the buyers do the rest. These platforms make selling easier on the seller too because they take care of taxes for you and don't require you to have any specialized licenses.

Jason sold on other's pages for a few years before deciding that he should set up a page of his own where he could list more than just Fenton. So, he expanded by creating a Facebook group for his sales and the real work began. This meant keeping an inventory of glass, posting items daily, bumping posts, messaging with buyers, and packing, packing, packing. We also found out the tax man would quickly get interested in this newfound "hobby". You definitely will need to check this out if you are thinking about selling. The definition of hobby and business varies by state, but the Fed only allows so much money to be made each year before the hobby becomes a business, and that amount has steadily gone down over the years.

About a year ago, Jason took the next step by getting his auctioneers license so we could do live sales from home. Each location has its own rules on who can sell and what can be sold, and what requirements you have to meet to sell, remember what I said about research? The live sales mean we must have larger amounts of ready to sell inventory at one time and the packing and shipping has to occur much more quickly, but the daily time commitment for posting, updating, and messaging has gone down. Some people also do similar sales via posts like Deal or No Deal and High Bid Wins, these can also trigger the auctioneer requirements, so again, research, research, research!

My biggest tips for those thinking about exploring online sales:

1. Research Everything – sites you might use, rules for those sites, requirements of your state, tax liability, etc.
2. Learn as much as you can about the piece(s) and make sure to study it well – look for flaws, discoloration, chips or flakes, you'll need to disclose all of that.
3. Review sold posts on platforms to get an idea of value – always look at sold items, people can ask whatever they want, sold will give you the best idea of realized prices, the books are outdated and might give you an idea on rarity or history of the item, but they aren't good for values at this point.
4. Invest in a good quality lightbox – you don't need a fancy camera or lens, your phone will work fine, but the lighting is key to good photos!
5. Did I mention Research?

6. Have fun! But, be warned, selling can be as addictive as collecting.

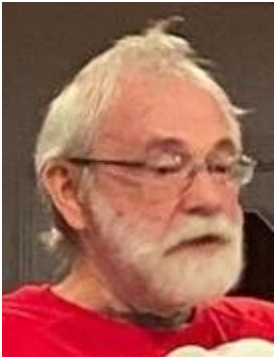
Thank you, Amanda, this is information that anyone who is thinking about selling their collection or parts of their collection themselves will find very helpful. Below check out a few pictures of the Grecian Gold pieces that Tom Limback brought in for us to enjoy.



Thank you, Tom, for bringing in this wonderful display. Too often Grecian Gold is overlooked because it does not show up as well as other stretch glass but seeing it grouped together makes a big impression. We just wish everyone could have seen it in person. Tom has included more information for us about this program that will prove helpful to any of us who would like to collect this glass.

Grecian Gold Follow Up

By Tom Limback



The April newsletter had a discussion on Grecian Gold. The Grecian Gold product line had approximately 100 different items. Here are a few more of the Grecian gold items not shown in the April newsletter.

The #2 creamer and sugar with the cobalt handles. Several of these creamers and sugars in other treatments can be found with the cobalt handle or the translucent handle. I have never seen the Grecian gold creamer/sugar without the cobalt handles. This is also the only Grecian Gold creamer and sugar that I am aware of.



Water sets should always be displayed with the pitcher and the tumblers. This contributes to a much more impressive show. The (*number unknown*) wheel cut juice set, smaller than the larger water set has the 8" 4-ring pitcher with the cobalt handle and accompanied by the 4 ringed 4-inch tumblers. The larger wheel cut water set has the 9" cobalt 4 ringed pitcher accompanied by the 5 inch 4 ringed tumblers. The pitcher and tumblers on both sets are wheel cut with 6 petal daisies with the laurel leaf wheel cut. Another wheel cut with the grape cutting is the #3700 slender 12" clear handle water set. These sets are normally accompanied by the 5" tumblers with the wheel cut grapes matching the pitcher. There also is the 3800 jug with the barrel tumblers wheel cut with grapes. Unfortunately, mine is packed away and I have lost track of it.



The 12" paneled vase is dark and actually striking in appearance and quite challenging to find. There are several candlesticks available of which the no 749 12" candle sticks being the most elusive and challenging pair to find. The Grecian gold 12" candlestick is one of the two known colors along with the jade in the no 749 candlestick.

The tumble ups can be found with the cobalt or translation handle. These tumble ups can also be found with the 6-petal daisy with laurel leaf wheel cut. The wheel cut shown has the cobalt handle. I have never seen the wheel cutting with the translucent handle.

Also shown is the 8" fan vase with a special cutting daisy and leaf cutting encircled by the backward K-Forward K etched border. This border is normally seen on the etched cigarette box.

Bud vases did not escape the cutting wheel. The 2 vases shown both have the 6-petal daisy in a vertical cutting on the front only. Again, quite striking.

Still elusive for me is the Grecian gold ginger jar

Tom Limback

Thank you, Tom, this gives us a lot of information about this glass that we need to be hunting. It takes a lot of work as well as research to present a program like this and we are grateful to you for sharing your knowledge.

Sadly, we must report that we lost Dave Rash on May 17th. Dave and his wife Linda have been members of our club for many years, and we believe that they have attended almost all the Galas. The last one that they missed was because Dave broke a leg. Dave and Linda's room was one of the first ones I always checked out not just because they brought some great glass but because they are such wonderful people to talk to. Dave was always willing to share his knowledge of glass. One memory that I have of Dave was the year that I took him a piece of banana cream pie, which he loved and would often remind me to make for him before the Gala, and a piece of coconut cream pie for Linda. Linda came back to the hospitality room to ask if there was any coconut pie left because Dave had eaten both pieces. This makes me smile every time I think of it. Our thoughts and prayers and love to Linda and the family Dave left behind. Dave will be missed.

Our June program will be a group program on our favorite Fenton artist. Please bring in some samples of the glass designed or painted or created by our favorite Fenton artist, remember it can be more than one! We would assume that it would include Dave Fetty or Frankie Workman as well as other Fenton glassmakers as they are artists as well as craftsmen. The treats will be provided by Todd and Michelle Pennington. Please join us to see if your favorite artist is included (they will be if you bring in some samples) and be sure to bring in some glass for show and tell. Until then keep hunting for that special piece of Fenton and keep safe and cool.

For those who prefer to send in a paper registration to the Gala or who do not have access to a computer the last page of the newsletter has the registration form printed for you. Please send it to Janet Wilke, her address is on the form. We hope that you will have as much fun as we do at the Gala.

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary

Gala 2023

Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City

Registration Form

Or go to fentonfinderskc.net to register online, if you prefer.

Name _____

(The way you want your name tag to be.)

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # () _____

Email Address _____

"Early" Registration Fee (until August 14, 2023) # ____ @ \$35.00 \$ _____

or Registration Fee (August 15, 2023 & after) # ____ @ \$40.00 \$ _____

Friday, Sept. 15, 2023, Luncheon 12:00 pm # ____ @ \$32.00 \$ _____

Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023, Banquet 6:00 pm # ____ @ \$40.00 \$ _____

Dues: Single \$5.00 or Family (at 1 address) \$7.50 \$ _____

Donation to Hospitality Room (optional)..... \$ _____

Total Enclosed\$ _____

Will you be bringing a display? Yes ____ No ____

Will you be bringing glass for sale? Yes ____ No ____

Make Checks Payable to: **Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City**

Visa____ Mastercard ____ Discover ____ AMEX ____ Paypal _____

Expires ____/____ 3 numbers from back of card _ _ _

Month Year

(To authorize your charge transaction, please print & sign your name as it appears on your card.)

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Send to: **Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City**

Janet Wilke, Treasurer

P O Box 67071

Topeka, KS 66667-0071

