

Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City

August 2024



By Tom Limback

Summertime is here in the Midwest, with its dangerous heat and high humidity! Keep hydrated with a refreshing glass of sun-brewed iced tea, and lunch of a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich with a vine-ripened tomato from your garden, followed by a

bowl of blackberry cobbler with a scoop of newly churned homemade ice cream.

Connie Duncan has been a real dynamo pulling together the 2024 Gala for our enjoyment this Fall! Have you gotten your hotel reservations or are you like me and procrastinating? The auction photos are on the website and should shortly be on Matthew Wroda's Auction site. Craig Ricklefs will need

some volunteers for assisting with the setup of the Big Display on Wednesday and tearing down the Big Display again on Saturday after the auction.

Carol Rigsby and Amanda Herman have been busy planning the Big Display, *The Changing Seasons of Fenton*. Have you checked your personal collection for that piece of Fenton to fit with the theme of the Seasons? I have been sending photos and letting Carol and Amanda determine if and how they can use them. I have sent photos of my lilac and my goldenrod. From my carnival collection, I provided photos of the Strawberry, Blueberry, and Blackberry Block water sets. The other day, while rummaging through my packed boxes, I ran across the early Ruby Pineapple footed bowl. I had forgotten how beautiful it was! I then sent a photo of it,

(continued on page 3)

2024 Gala Update on Registration, Activities, Transport

By Connie Duncan

Gala is fast approaching and the deadline for early registration is August 15, 2024. Be sure to make your hotel room registration at our host hotel, the Embassy Suites, Tiffany Springs, Mo. weekdays call 816-891-7788 and ask for the Fenton Glass Rate. To have free wi-fi you MUST be a Hilton Honors member. Hilton Honors is free to join. A daily fee will be charged if you use their wi-fi and are not a member.

If you are flying to the Gala, Kansas City has a new airport terminal. The hotel shuttle can be reached by calling 816-991-7788. I have used this service and it is great. After exiting the terminal, go to green columns 3E-H for pickup.

Online registration for the Gala is the best and is like one stop shopping. You can register, buy your meals, request an individual table display, renew your club membership, and much more. You can even make a donation to our hospitality suite. Oh, Thursday night is KC BBQ and it is the best! Thursday night is Glass ID. Bring those pieces of glass you want to share or need help with. Your piece might be Fenton!

Friday is a busy day!! It is time to review each of the Individual Table Displays. Our Gala attendees put a lot of time and effort into sharing their glass with you, and these Table Displays are amazing. These tables are very educational and I, for one, see

(continued on page 2)

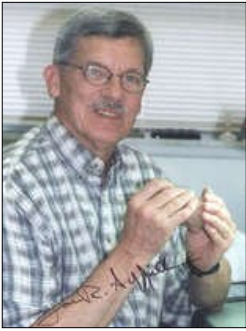
Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City is August 10, 2024. Join us at Sterling Full Gospel Church, 3007 S. Sterling Ave., Independence, Mo. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Table of Contents

Memorials	2
Gala Information	4
Seeking Officer Nominations	5
Fenton Made with Other Moulds	6
Hospitality Room	13
June Meeting Minutes	14
Finds From the Road	15

Memorial Tribute to Jon Saffell



Jon Saffell

It is with great sadness we share the passing of former Fenton mould designer, Jon Saffell, on May 25, 2024. He was born November 25, 1939 in Glen Dale, W.Va.; to the late Robert C. and Mildred Wallace Saffell.

Jon graduated from Moundsville High School in 1957, and attended West Liberty State College while working at Fostoria Glass Co., where he was employed for 29 years. After Fostoria closed in 1986, he was self-employed for eight years.

In 1994, he began employment as product designer/sculptor with the Fenton Art Glass Company in Williamstown, W.Va. He retired from Fenton in 2004. Jon was a gifted sculptor, exhibiting and winning awards at numerous art shows.

There are very few artists who can successfully design for glass production. The designer must understand how the form will release from the mould, as well as how it will appear when transparent. The key element in the design process is to conceptualize that which has not been tried. He was a designer who created some beautiful and unique designs for Fenton Art Glass.

When asked about how he created a mould design, Jon replied, "The length of time to complete one mould depends upon the complexity of the pattern and the type of mould. I create a scale clay model, being careful to avoid undercuts in each section. When this model is completed to my satisfaction and approved by the Design Committee, I then make a rubber mould from it and pour a resin cast which is essentially an exact model of the final mould which is then duplicated in cast iron. To this stage I may have been working on this project for four to five weeks."

The Fenton 12-piece Nativity Scene is perhaps Jon's best-known design, along with Natalie, the ballerina, and both the Praying Kids and the Kissing Kids.

Special thanks to the Fenton Gift Shop and Fostoria Glass Museum for information in this memorial.

Robert Grissom Passes

It is with great sadness we share the passing of Robert (Bob) Grissom. Bob passed away on Monday, June 17th. He was a long-time member of our club and long-time President of Heart of America Carnival Glass Association (HOACGA).



Bob was on the first Gala committee and for a few years after. He was a big help in getting the Gala located to the Embassy Suites. His passion was carnival glass. I do remember him saying even if a piece of glass had a crack or damage, just turn it around to the good side and it was a shelf piece.

Gala Update

(continued from page 1)

pieces of Fenton every year, that I have never seen before.

We will have our luncheon at noon on Friday. Following lunch, Stephen Embry will inform us about Fenton Look-a-Likes. If you have any pieces, please bring them to share.

Friday evening, we will have a short General Meeting, then on to the Big Display. The title of this year's big display is *The Changing Seasons of Fenton*. I am so excited to see the beauty of this big display!

After the big display we will open the room which holds the Saturday morning auction items for viewing. You are invited to attend the Saturday morning auction. This auction is open to the general public, as well. There are 250 quality pieces of Fenton in this year's auction.

As a finale to the Gala, we will have our banquet on Saturday evening. After this meal, we have an auction of whimsies.

Sunday morning is our final breakfast together and sharing our goodbyes for another year. We hope you will have had a good time and will return in 2025. Be careful and be safe going home!!!

President's Report Continued

(continued from page 1)

along with the contemporary Pineapple water set. I was looking for a Fenton piece with a robin as the harbinger of Spring. When I couldn't find one, I substituted a photo of CC Hardman's 2022 hummingbird vase and a JK Spindler 2024 hummingbird vase. It is always interesting to see what shows up in the Big Display! I can't wait!

FFGKC's board of directors consists of four officers - the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers serve terms of two years. Officers whose terms expire this year on December 31, are the President, Tom Limback, and Treasurer, Janet Wilke. Please review the article *FFGKC Seeking Officer Nominations* on page 5 for further information. Contact either Jackie Oglesby or Connie Duncan if you are interested or have questions.



Amish-built oak cabinet purchased and donated to the new Museum of Fenton Art Glass. It measures 50" wide x 77" tall x 20 inches deep.

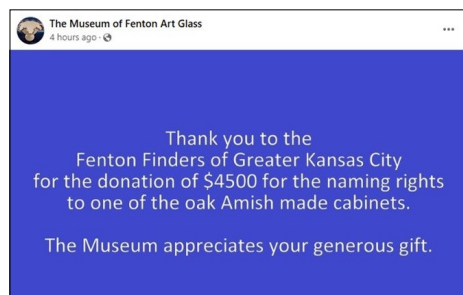
On April 17, FFGKC was informed the FAGCA finalized the purchase of the church property that is to become the Museum of Fenton Art Glass. Additionally, FFGKC received notice that six display cases, in three different styles at different price points, will be available for purchase and donation by applying for name recognition on June 29, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. EDT via email. Due to the shortness of notification, and the club's interest in having a display case with the club's name on it, the

board of directors discussed the different styles of the display cases and their pricing. The board of directors then decided that the club should apply for one of the cases for the name recognition.

On June 29, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. EDT, Tom Limback sent an email to FAGCA informing them FFGKC was interested in one of the Amish-built oak glass-enclosed display cases priced at \$4500.

On July 3, 2024, FFGKC was awarded the naming recognition for one of the new Museum of Fen-

ton Art Glass display cases. This allows FFGKC the opportunity to invest in the preservation and showcasing of the beautiful Fenton glass produced since 1907 for future generations.



Above is the public Thank You from the new Museum of Fenton Art Glass for the cabinet purchase and donation from the FFGKC, posted on Facebook on July 3, 2024.

The August meeting program will take a step back in time to review the turquoise color of the mid-1950s. The program will showcase the turquoise block-and-star pattern and the turquoise hobnail from my collection. Due to my limited display space, some of these pieces have been packed away for 25-30 years. For the last few days, I have been busy washing glass that was being displayed and digging through boxes for turquoise pieces. Finding the packed glass is a little challenging since the pieces are in different boxes and different locations. Among the more interesting and/or hard-to-find turquoise pieces are the footed jam set, the condiment set, the hobnail epergne, and the pitcher with the elusive 10-ounce tumblers. This is an opportunity to see these turquoise pieces 70 years after they were produced by Fenton in the mid-1950s.

I wish everyone a Fun and Safe Summer! If I don't see you this Summer, I hope to see you during the Gala! Yours, Tom

Fenton Trivia

1. What year did the original Fenton Museum in the Fenton factory open?
2. Who was the primary driving force behind the development and organization of the original Fenton Museum?

Answers
1. 1977
2. Frank M. Fenton

Club Glass Sales Changes

By Connie Duncan

We have made some changes to this year's Club Glass Sales. There was a suggestion on the survey done last year at the Gala, to let First Time attendees in the glass room first. We have made the following change for Glass Sales on Thursday - the First Time attendees will be provided entry to Glass Sales at **1:30 p.m. on Thursday**. Everyone else will be allowed to enter at **2:00 p.m. on Thursday**. First Time attendees will have their badges marked this year.

We will also be limiting the number of pieces you can purchase on the first day of Glass Sales to three. Hopefully everyone will be able to purchase a piece of glass to cherish. Happy Shopping!

Gala Reminders:

By Connie Duncan

1. Register for the Gala, either on-line at <http://www.fentonfinderskc.com> or by U.S. Mail using the forms sent out with the June issue of the newsletter.
2. Hotel reservations at the Embassy Suites, event dates are September 12-14²⁰²⁴.
3. Glass for Glass ID.
4. Any glass you are sharing in the Big Display.
5. Glass to sell if you are selling out of your hotel room.
6. Extra boxes and wrap for your purchases.
7. Something yummy to share for the hospitality room.
8. Individual Table Display to share.
9. Pack comfortable clothing (a light jacket), with something a little nicer for the Banquet.
10. Wish lists
11. Your auction glass for Saturday morning if you are consigning glass. If you're not consigning glass, bring your highlighted auction list for the items you want to bid on!
12. Money!!

Almost forgot the most important: Get lots of rest before you come because we plan to keep you busy!!

Gala Luncheon & Banquet Meals

By Connie Duncan

For all of you who are attending the Gala and have been wondering what the meals will be this year, I thought you might like a preview!

Luncheon

- Mixed Green Salad, with Sliced Cucumbers, Cherry Tomatoes, Julienne Carrots and CROUTONS, Dressing: Ranch, Balsamic Vinegar
- Chicken Florentine, with Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables
- Apple Pie
- Bread service, water, and iced tea

Dinner

- Green salad, with Dried Cranberries, Candied Walnuts and Feta Cheese tossed with a Raspberry Vinaigrette Dressing.
- 8 oz. Sirloin Steak, with Red Roasted potatoes with glazed carrots NOTE: All steaks will be cooked to medium.
- Choice of Crème Brûlée with Fruit or 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.

We look forward to sharing these wonderful meals with you!

The Glass-ary: *Glass Terms Explained*

Bobeches – disks placed over the shanks of candles to catch the drips of hot wax. Used to protect candleholders and tablecloths.

Depression Glass – An inexpensive, but wildly popular glass, created in the 1930s. Many patterns, shapes, and colors. Manufactured by machine in huge quantities, this glass was given away, sold at dime stores, and used as promotional incentives to purchase other products.

FFGKC Seeking Officer Nominations

Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City club officers whose terms expire December 31, 2024 are the President and Treasurer. Terms of office for both positions is for two years, from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

President: Current Officer is Tom Limback.

Description of office: Principal officer of Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City, supervising all of the business affairs of the FFGKC club.

Treasurer: Current Officer is Janet Wilke.

Description of office: Maintains the financial records and logs for Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City. Expenses all monies via check. Reports current monthly financial status during the bi-monthly FFGKC club meetings.

Nominees must be members in good standing with the Fenton finders of Greater Kansas City (FFGKC). If the nominee is someone other than yourself, please ensure the individual has agreed to serve. Nominees will be accepted until September 1, 2024, and nominee profiles will be due September 1, 2024.

Nominees will be accepted:

- during the August bi-monthly FFGKC business meeting on August 10, 2024.
- emailing Jackie Oglesby at stogles@yahoo.com or Connie Duncan at Fenton123@aol.com
- by U.S. mail to Jackie Oglesby or Connie Duncan

Jackie Oglesby
Nomination - FFGKC
10903 Elmwood Drive
Kansas City, Mo 64137-1998

Connie Duncan
Nomination - FFGKC
868 S Juniper Terr
Gardner, KS 66030

Nominee profiles will be printed in the October newsletter. Ballots will be mailed with the October newsletter. Ballots naming your selection may be returned via email or by U.S. Mail. Ballots must be returned by October 1, 2024. Newly-elected officers will be announced at the October bi-monthly meeting on October 6, 2024.

Our June Program

By Jackie Oglesby

Our program for June was on Rubel glass presented by Bobby Stanley. Bobby is an exceptional person and collector, and has already been able to gather a truly



impressive collection of Fenton Glass. This is especially mind-blowing, because he and his wife, Kristina, have only been collecting Fenton for the last three years.



When you check out the pictures you will find some rare and hard-to-find pieces of Rubel they managed to find and were kind enough to bring and share

at our meeting. There is the hard-to-find 4-piece Emerald Green jam set on the original stand and an Emerald Green shallow, ribbed sample bowl pictured in Carrie and Gerald Domitz's book, *Fenton Glass Made for Other Companies 1907-1980*.

Please check out the pictures to find more treasures they shared with us. Thank you, Bobby and Kristina for collecting and sharing this beautiful glass with us.

Our Show and Tell featured some really nice glass including a Ruby Stretch Glass Punch Bowl on a pedestal. Wonderful!



Fenton Made with Other Companies' Moulds – Part III

By Sarah Smith

This is the third in a series of articles providing a sample of the moulds Fenton purchased from other glass companies, and moulds Fenton actually used to make glass under their own name. Please note, these articles do *not* include every mould purchased and remade; the examples shown are only meant to provide a sampling for these articles.



In 1983, Fenton began using a special logo (a cursive F in a vertical oval) to indicate the use of a mould that originated from a different glass company.

Handel Company

The Handel Company was established in 1876 in Meriden, Conn. They specialized in high quality reverse painted lamp shades and were generally considered a less-expensive alternative to the Tiffany lamp popularized by Louis Comfort Tiffany. They also made leaded glass shades similar to Tiffany, as well as vases, humidor boxes, and other decorative objects.

1996 Connoisseur Collection Mandarin Red covered box. This mould was acquired by Fenton in 1991.



H. Northwood Glass Company (closed in 1925)



6-inch Dolphin Comport/Card Receiver. The dolphin card receiver was an original Northwood mould which is currently owned by David McKinley (an architect), who is the great-grandson of Harry North-



New Northwood script signature

wood's younger brother, Carl Northwood. Mr. McKinley purchased this mould at the L.G. Wright auction in 1999. This

comport was made by Fenton in Blue Carnival for Mr. McKinley, and the original Northwood Glass Company never made this item in Carnival glass. All of the new carnival examples made are clearly marked with a new Northwood script signature as shown here.

18-inch Dancing Ladies Urn vase with cover. Wouldn't we each love to have one of these?!?!



The large 18-inch Dancing Ladies urn mould was purchased by Fenton in the mid-1920s. Fenton made the Dancing Ladies urn in Jade, black, and Moonstone, but they didn't have the mould very long, as John Fenton took it with him to Oklahoma. John Fenton

died in the early 1930s, and the whereabouts of the mould is now unknown. Dancing Ladies items subsequent to this time period were made with a new mould that Fenton created.



Imperial Glass (closed in 1984)

Fenton acquired some Imperial moulds in the mid-1980s. Additional Imperial moulds were acquired through the Indiana Glass Company in 2002.

9-inch trumpet basket. This mould was used by Imperial Glass to produce pressed vases. Fenton made baskets in this shape in Cobalt Blue, Aquamarine, and Empress Rose.



7-1/2 inch perfume bottle and stopper. Fenton made this in Blue, Rose, Sunset, Violet, and Willow Green.

(continued on page 7)

Fenton from Other Companies' Moulds

(continued from page 6)

4-inch hexagon trinket box. Fenton made this in Blue, Rose, Sunset, Violet, and Willow Green.



4-1/2 inch covered bunny box. This bunny box was originally made in the 1930s by the Imperial Glass Corporation. Fenton made this bunny box in Chocolate, Burmese decorated, Milk Glass decorated (with different colored bases), and Key Lime.

6-inch Loganberry vase. Fenton made this vase in Favrene in 2005 as an exclusive for the Fenton Family Signing Events.



Poppy Show vase. The Poppy Show vase was acquired by Fenton in the mid-1980s, and Singleton Bailey had Fenton make this item in several different colors including Spruce Green, Cranberry Opalescent, Shell Pink, Celeste Blue, Burmese, Blue Burmese, Lotus Mist Burmese, Violet, etc.

6-1/2 inch Hobstar & Flower vase. This is another Imperial Glass mould Fenton produced in Ruby Carnival in 2005, and Cobalt Carnival in 2007.



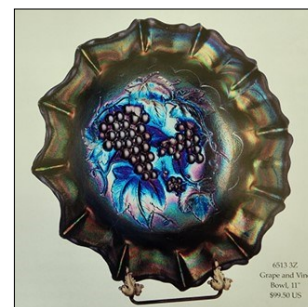
8-1/2 inch Antique Button covered candy dish. This mould was an Imperial pattern called Atterbury Swirl. Fenton modified the mould (added the button in the middle) and called this "Antique Button". Fenton made this in Red Carnival in 1995, as a Mike Fenton signature piece.



Two-piece 5-1/2 inch Covered Pie Wagon. Imperial first made this item in the 1950s. The "Reber and Co." name on this piece refers to Albert L. Reber, a longtime sales representative for the Imperial firm, who was a good friend of Imperial's president, Carl Gustkey. Fenton made this item in 2004, in Amethyst Carnival.



11-inch Grape & Vine Bowl. This item was made in 2007 in Black Marigold Carnival.



3-1/2 inch Medallion Pitcher. This item was made by Fenton in 2006 in Amethyst Carnival.

(continued on page 8)

Fenton from Other Companies' Moulds

(continued from page 7)

Indiana Glass Company (closed in 1985/1986)

The Indiana Glass Company originated as the Beatty Brady Glass Company in the 1890s, became part of the National Glass Company in the early 1900s, and in 1904 became the Indiana Glass Company.

Indiana was a “combination plant” whereas Fenton is a “hand plant.” Indiana produced glass both by hand and by semi-automated and automated machines – hence the term “combination plant.”

When the Imperial Glass Company closed, some of the Imperial glass moulds went to the Indiana Glass Company. When Fostoria closed, many Fostoria moulds also went to the Indiana Glass Company. Most (if not all) of these moulds were simply stored at Indiana, as Indiana was automated at that time and had no use for the moulds.

In 2002, George and Nancy Fenton and Jim Measell went to the Indiana Glass Co. to look at the moulds. At that time, there were approximately 13,000 moulds there. A.A. Importing purchased a few of those moulds, and was having glass manufactured overseas.

Fenton purchased most of the remaining Indiana moulds. Some were unusable and were sold for scrap. After weeding through all of these moulds, approximately 4,000 useable moulds were in Fenton's possession while they were still in business.



and later made in Blue Lagoon Opalescent.

10-inch Paneled basket. This large paneled basket was made by Fenton for Easter 2005, in French Opalescent with a Celeste Blue crest and square twisted handle. It was also made in French Opalescent with a Violet crest,

6-inch Paneled vase. This old Imperial Glass mould was chosen by Fenton to make an exclusive vase for the Fenton Glass Messenger in 2004 with Tom Fenton's signature on it. The finished, decorated vase was called “Indiana Pansies.”



9-inch Mayflower vase. This vase was made by Fenton in 2007 in Cobalt Carnival. This vase was first made in decorated crystal by the Indiana Glass Company, about the time of World War I. It was also later made by the Indiana Glass Company in transparent amber and transparent blue.

9-inch Ring Pitcher. These 9-inch Ring pitchers were produced by Fenton in 2007 as part of their Horizons line. Fenton made them in French Opalescent with Fern Green, Indigo Blue, and Madras Pink.



10-inch handled pitcher. This pitcher was made by Fenton in 2007 in Madras Pink.

(continued on page 9)

Fenton from Other Companies' Moulds

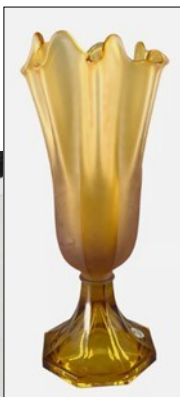
(continued from page 8)



5-1/4 inch paneled pitcher. This small, paneled pitcher was made by Fenton in 2007 in both Madras Pink and Indigo Blue. The Madras Pink pitcher was decorated with Robin Spindler's "Meadow Berry," and the Indigo Blue pitcher

was decorated with Kim Barley's "Cherry Blossoms" and "Tranquil Sea" motifs.

11-13-inch Swung vase. This vase was made in 2006 by Fenton, in Autumn Gold, Aubergine, Violet, and Fern Green. This mould traces its origin to a footed celery holder made at the Boston and Sandwich Glass Co. more than 140 years ago. This classic vase was depicted on a 33-cent U.S. postage stamp issued in June 1999.



3-piece dresser set. This set was produced in 2005 on Burmese and decorated with a stylized hummingbird and delicate floral designed by Frances Burton. NOTE: Only the perfume bottle and tray



are made from Indiana moulds.



6-1/2 inch Covered Candy Box. This covered candy box was made in 2004 in Ruby Carnival and decorated with a Kim Barley-designed motif called "Tuscan Charm."

8-1/4 inch Urn. This old Indiana mould was produced by Fenton in 2004 in Periwinkle Blue.



2005 Aquamarine Opalescent 12-inch Punch bowl set (limited to 1250). This punch set was part of Fenton's 2005 Platinum Collection.



Shell dish. This old Indiana mould was also produced by Fenton in 2004 in Periwinkle Blue.

A Rare Piece of Crested Ware? No! Buyers Beware!!

Irradiation a major concern for collectors across glass genres

By Anne Blackmore

When I saw this Fenton plate at a local glass club meeting, I could not wait for the owner to share information about it. I did not have the slightest hint what the color was.



Irradiated Silver Crest luncheon plate.

As the plate's owner got up to speak about his items and finally got to this plate, he said it was purchased at a large market in Louisville, Ky. from a man who *irradiates* glass. That explained everything.

This was indeed a Fenton piece. It started life as a Silver Crest plate. Then someone irradiated it by putting it in a sealed chamber and applied x-rays or Cobalt-60 gamma rays to it. This technique of irradiation has been on a dramatic increase in the United States in the last ten to 15 years.

Some glass will naturally turn a very pale purple if left in a sunny place. Typically, this is glass from the late 1800s, in which manganese or lead was used to enhance the clarity of clear glass. These minerals are very susceptible to the natural irradiation process of the sun. However, it can happen to any glass containing manganese.

Almost all artificially irradiated glass will be very vibrant purple. It is commonly seen on canning jars, glass insulators, and on Early American Press Glass (EAPG) pieces. Fostoria American is another common victim of this process. Nearly all collectors think artificial irradiation destroys the collectible value of a piece.

When I had the opportunity to attend a show of the National Insulator Association, I jumped at the chance. I was anxious to see what this group's response was to the irradiation of their collectible.

What I found was an organization amazingly strong in its efforts to educate its members and col-

lectors in general. The NIA has completed extensive research on irradiation of insulators, going so far as to have samples irradiated. These samples travel to NIA shows across the country, as an educational exhibit. Another part of the exhibit is a take-along, seven-page handout for show attendees. The handout describes irradiation and its effects on glass, how it is done, descriptions of some of the chemical reactions, how to recognize the altered colors, the possibilities of reversing colors back to the original after irradiation, and referring collectors to further information on the NIA website.

Another interesting item shown at the educational exhibit was part of the NIA Code of Ethics, in which the following statement is made, "Altered insulators are deemed to be objectionable to the best interests of the hobby." They describe "altered insulators" as original insulators, commemorative insulators, or salesman samples which have been intentionally altered from their originally manufactured condition. The Code of Ethics also prohibits NIA members from making or manufacturing, advertising, or exhibiting any altered insulator or related item which is not plainly and permanently marked "fake".

It is reassuring to see an organization so proactive in protecting itself from the sheer greed of those who would cheat collectors.

Another glass group very interested in educating its members about irradiated pieces is the Lalique collectors. I recently read an article which stated some Lalique pieces have sold in the last eight to ten years for considerably higher prices than what should have been obtained. These amazing prices were achieved because the vases were a previously unknown purple color. Guess what has since been determined? Some greedy, unscrupulous person(s) took already valuable Lalique crystal pieces, worth approximately \$5,000 to \$8,000 each, irradiated them to a "rare" purple color, then sold them for upwards of \$20,000. There have been cases where dollar values on irradiated fakes were over \$150,000.

A couple of these "very rare" pieces were sold at high end auction houses in New York. When the pieces were determined to be irradiated and thus falsely promoted as "rare", the auction houses were

(continued on page 13)

Individual Table Displays

By Connie Duncan

We still have tables available if you want to do an individual table display. Last year all the tables were full of wonderful, beautiful glass. We do not have a title or theme you have to follow. Full table displays are encouraged, with identification requested, as education is one of the keys to enjoying our glass passion. Choose your own theme.

Please indicate during online registration, or on your paper registration, if we should reserve a display table for you.



Tables are 30 inches wide by 72 inches long.

Since our Big Display this year is titled, *The Changing Seasons of Fenton*, you could do a table on a season. I think most of us have Fenton we display at different times of the year in our home. Do you have a certain Fenton pattern you have collected?

Remember, we do not judge tables. All that we require is a list of the glass that is on your table. Come join us in doing a display!

Please Share With Us!

If you would like to share part of your collection, a great new find, or an interesting Fenton story, please write it up and take a couple of nice clear photographs. Then mail it or email it to me. Our members would love to learn from you!

Email: amblackmore@yahoo.com

Mail: Anne Blackmore
PO Box 342
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Fun With Old Fenton

Answer Key to June's Word Find

In the June issue of our newsletter, there was a word find. As promised, here is the answer key.

V	S	C	O	M	E	T	O	G	A	L	A	S	E	N	I	R	A	M	A	U	Q	A
I	H	U	E	A	R	V	T	L	N	Y	E	E	R	T	E	G	N	A	R	O	L	M
C	C	T	J	N	O	R	T	D	I	A	M	O	N	D	O	P	T	I	C	T	R	E
T	N	O	U	D	S	H	O	W	Y	E	P	I	P	W	O	L	B	Z	H	I	C	T
O	E	V	Q	A	E	T	G	R	E	C	I	A	N	G	O	L	D	U	O	R	H	H
R	B	A	K	R	N	U	O	N	T	K	S	D	C	G	L	J	Q	X	C	F	I	Y
I	D	L	A	I	T	O	E	T	C	W	I	L	L	I	A	M	S	T	O	W	N	S
A	A	X	R	N	H	M	R	V	H	D	C	E	L	E	S	T	E	B	L	U	E	T
N	N	J	N	R	A	Y	T	X	E	Z	E	E	R	T	E	L	P	P	A	N	S	O
T	C	O	A	E	L	L	L	Y	D	A	E	N	I	R	E	G	N	A	T	X	E	P
O	I	T	K	D	W	P	E	R	S	I	A	N	B	L	U	E	L	P	E	C	Y	A
P	N	Z	R	G	E	N	R	A	S	T	R	E	T	C	H	L	W	A	G	J	E	L
A	G	F	E	N	T	O	N	T	F	R	A	N	K	T	R	I	M	D	L	E	L	E
Z	L	S	D	R	P	A	I	R	E	T	S	I	W	E	R	Z	S	I	A	R	L	S
F	A	R	I	S	T	O	C	R	A	T	I	M	M	I	K	A	D	O	S	M	O	C
H	D	B	R	U	W	M	H	B	Y	T	T	E	F	P	W	B	H	T	S	I	W	E
L	I	N	C	O	L	N	I	N	N	J	G	D	R	X	I	E	Y	G	A	L	A	N
P	E	F	U	R	N	A	C	E	Y	O	T	N	A	S	M	T	U	L	K	A	R	T
C	S	N	O	W	F	E	R	N	D	N	O	M	Y	A	R	H	Q	I	B	D	Y	B
C	I	A	S	O	M	N	E	E	R	G	N	A	I	L	O	G	N	O	M	Y	V	M

As a reminder, the words to find were:

Fenton	Mikado
Williamstown	Milady
Chinese Yellow	Cut Oval
Rosenthal	Snow Fern
Plymouth	San Toy
Persian Blue	Ming
Otto Goertler	Mongolian Green
Karnak Red	Celeste Blue
Aristocrat	Jade
Diamond Optic	Mosaic
Dancing Ladies	Orange Tree
Chocolate Glass	Victorian Topaz
Amethyst Opalescent	Tangerine
Leaf Tiers	Furnace
Grecian Gold	Blowpipe
Mandarin Red	Bench
Lincoln Inn	Frit
Elizabeth	Raymond
Aquamarine	Etched
Wisteria	Stretch
Apple Tree	Frank

Is it Fenton or Is it Not?

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

By Anne Blackmore

Fostoria American Small Hat Vase

Typically eBay sellers make the broad generalization when a piece has a ruffle or hobnails, it must be Fenton. This little cube pattern hat vase, which was not identified as to its size, was given the Fenton label because it was a hat vase.



A quick look in our Fostoria American collectors book, *Fostoria American A Complete Guide*, second edition, by Sidney P. Seligson, showed Fostoria made three sizes of small hat vases. With the poor photo and no measurements specified in the listing, it is difficult to determine whether the listed piece is Fostoria's 2-1/2 inch, 3 inch, or 4 inch tall "Topper."

The Fostoria American Toppers were produced in approximately the same timeframe as Fenton's hat vases, with the 2-1/2 inch made from 1939-1958, and the 3 inch and 4 inch pieces from 1940-1958.

Fenton is known for its hat vases, most often in opalescent patterns of the 1940s (stripes, dots, swirls).

Mary Gregory Style Painted Vase by A.A. Importing

Once again, a piece with a crest and a ruffle has been identified as "Fenton" by a seller in a very large, well-known antique mall.



It is disappointing to see this happen when there is a fair amount of information available on this A.A. Importing shape, even in our own newsletter. But, I spotted this cobalt vase, with its large, crystal ruffle and Mary Gregory style art work at a very large, popular midwestern antique mall, and sure enough, it was labeled as Fenton.

As our own S. Holmes has shared with us in the April 2024 issue of our newsletter, A.A. Importing offered this vase, based on its infamous pitcher mould, with the Mary Gregory style painting in the late 1970s and perhaps the early 1980s. So that means this vase is not new. But it does *not* mean it is Fenton.

Jefferson Glass Pink Etched Boudoir Lamp

Small boudoir or pancake lamps are quite popular with collectors these days, especially those with matching chimneys. This etched pink glass lamp was spotted on eBay a short while ago and was listed as Fenton.



While Fenton did produce a lamp very similar to this, with the pancake base, matching color chimneys, and a variety of etches, this pink lamp is not Fenton. It was made by Jefferson Glass.



Top of the Jefferson lamp base. Note there are no ridges.

There is a simple method of determining the maker of these small lamps. Does the lamp have spoke-like ridges on the top surfaces of the base?

Fenton pancake lamps will always have the ridges on the top of the base. You can see the ridges here on the green base of this Fenton boudoir lamp.

Many collectors love both Fenton and Jefferson lamps. But it is good to know what you are buying, and Fenton lamps do typically command a higher price.



Fenton lamp base. The yellow dots show the location of the ribs.

Hospitality Room 2024

By Jackie Ogelsby

It is difficult to believe this is the last newsletter before the Gala. There is so much to do and to look forward to!

This year, as always, the club will provide a barbeque dinner at the start of the Gala. We will open early for snacks and treats, and invite our members to bring salads, veggies, and (yum-yum) desserts to make the Hospitality Room so much better.



For any who have never attended the Gala, we have a potluck dinner every day of the event, with the help of our members who bring wonderful salads and desserts for all of us to enjoy.

If you are traveling, and cannot bring some wonderful homemade treats, but still want to contribute, a monetary donation helps, as the club will provide almost everything needed for the potluck dinners. Our goal is to give everyone a chance to enjoy a meal without leaving the hotel. It is also a great place to socialize!



Please, if possible, bring your contribution in a throw-away container, or mark your container in such a way that you can find it easily when we have cleaned it up. We have all kinds of serving utensils, so you do not need to bring any. If you have any questions, please contact me, Jackie Ogelsby, at stogles@yahoo.com or 816-304-8263.

**Remember, the Gala
registration rate goes up
after August 12—
Register Early!**

Irradiated Glass Concerns

(continued from page 10)

sued for substantial sums and were forced by the courts to pay back all the money buyers paid.

I did some searching on eBay to see if any of these “rare” Lalique pieces were listed and did find two of the “Serpent” vases in the irradiated purple color. According to a Lalique collectors’ website, the vase was never made in this vivid purple color and any pieces found should be assumed to be irradiated. The same seller was listing both bright purple Serpent vases, each for over \$8,000. The simple fact the same seller had two of what would be considered an exceptionally rare piece should immediately be a red flag for a potential buyer. Sometimes a collector’s best defense is good common sense.



Lalique Serpent Vase, irradiated to purple from its original crystal.

But, back to the irradiated Fenton Silver Crest luncheon plate discussed first. What can we, as Fenton collectors do to stop irradiated products from flooding our market? How can we ensure we don’t purchase irradiated fakes being hawked as “rare,” “sample,” “oak,” or some other special designation?

The best thing you can do to protect yourself is *Be Educated!* Read your Fenton books and know what was made and in what colors. Regular readers and Gala attendees know I frequently say, “Know your shapes,” but in this case, you must also “Know your colors.” Never be too proud to take at least a couple of your books with you when you go antiques shopping, to a market, or to an auction. We always take a milk crate full of books with us when we go out shopping.

Another thing you can do is look at on-line auctions frequently, especially at items you favor. Become familiar with what is being sold and who is selling it. Whatever it is you collect, become an expert in it. That way, when you run across something “wrong,” you can knowingly and confidently walk past it and not be cheated.

June 2024 Meeting Minutes FFGKC

MEETING NOTES JUNE 8, 2024 - The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City was called to order by our President, Tom Limback, at 7:00 p.m.

Tom Limback called for corrections and additions to the meeting notes for the April 13, 2024, meeting notes published in June's newsletter; there were none. Dan Madura moved they be accepted as printed. Connie Duncan seconded the motion, and it was passed by a vote of our members.

Janet Wilke gave the Treasurer's report for April and May of 2024.

Old Business: Tom started the meeting asking for updates on the Gala. Connie Duncan reported that all the rooms we have committed to filling have been reserved and that she was going to talk to the hotel to get more rooms set aside for us. She is still working with the hotel on what will be served at the banquet. She also reported the auction is complete, and that pictures and the list of glass is up on our website. She reported on the glass she had purchased for the club from FAGCA and the Fenton Gift Shop, as well as other sources, to be decorated by CC Hardman and Karen Easton. Karen has agreed to paint a piece of glass for us at the Gala. Stephen Embry will be our special speaker at the Gala luncheon. Janet Wilke gave an update on the number of registrations, luncheons, and banquets that have been reserved.

Carol Rigsby gave an update on the big display; she reported that while there are still some pieces of glass she and Amanda would like to get for the display, many of our members have reached out to volunteer their glass. She will be reaching out to talk with Craig Ricklefs about how the display will need to be set up. Jackie Oglesby asked if people have been asked to place their names on their glass to ensure everyone can get their glass back. It can be very confusing when we are tearing down the display and everyone is packing their glass at the same time. Carol said people would be asked to do that.

New Business: Connie Duncan reported the Gala committee has already lined up a program and are making plans for the big display for 2025.

Tom talked about club officials who will be up for election this year. Both the positions of President and Treasurer will be up for vote. Connie Duncan suggested Tom put something in the newsletter about the positions being available, and we will have nominations at the Gala. The board members will discuss when and how the vote will take place.

Connie Duncan announced she will not be handling the auctions in the future and that Tom Limback and Jackie Oglesby will work on it. Jackie said she will place something in the newsletter about the auction for 2025.

Jackie Oglesby moved that we send \$100.00 to each FAGCA and NFGS for the hospitality rooms at their national conventions. Connie Duncan seconded the motion, and it was passed by a vote of our members.

The program for June was Rubel Glass presented by Bobbie Stanley.

Treats for June were provided by Tom Limback

The program for August will be presented by Tom Limback, with the topic to be announced.

The treats for August will be provided by Connie Duncan.

Janet Wilke moved that we leave at 8:40 p.m.

Dan Madura seconded the motion.

We left.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jackie Oglesby



Some of the Rubel Glass from Bobbie and Kristina Stanley's collection.

Finds from the Road

A Unicorn Find in an Out-of-the Way Place



By Anne Blackmore

A short time ago, Max and I had planned a trip to visit dear friends and do some antiquing along the way. As we discussed where to stop and how the timing would work, we brought up the couple of shops in Superior, Wisc. we had stopped at about 18 months ago. They had treated us well, and the area is beautiful. So, we decided to work Superior and its shops into our itinerary.



Fenton #893 Jade Ginger Jar lamp without additional illumination.

We left on a Wednesday, traveling through Illinois and up into Wisconsin. We had a great time stopping at antique shops along the way and found lots of great Fenton, including a pink Fenton Christmas tree! We spent the first night in central Wisconsin.

Getting up early the next morning, our first shop was about 40 minutes away, and we were there shortly before they opened. This old school building has a huge variety of glass. We found an entire tote of amazing pieces here - Fenton, Tiffin, Canton, and Northwood. Heading north once again, it was about two and one-half hours to Superior, and a ride with absolutely stunning scenery - woods, lakes, and wildlife are abundant. I even spotted a wild porcupine!

Once we arrived in Superior, we stopped at the first of two antique stores on our route. This is a shop set up in an old house, quite near the Lake Superior shoreline. It is filled with glass, boating and camping collectibles, and old breweriana.

We found lots of pretty glass, including a marvelous Fenton Peach Crest vase with Charleton decoration and an original Charleton label. I was delighted to find a Fitger beer bottle I did not yet have, for my personal collection.

Next, we headed the five miles into the heart of town to the second of our shops in the area. We were lucky and found a great parking spot on the street right in front.

Upon entering, Max headed straight for the window display, but while it was again eye-catching, there was nothing for us. Turning to make the loop through the store, my eye caught a light blue color on the shelf. There was a 1950s era Fenton Turquoise hobnail basket for a super price. Continuing, we found eight more great pieces of Fenton. Then we both stopped dead in our tracks and just stared up. There is a lot on the tops of cabinets here, so I asked Max if we were both looking at the same thing.

He said, "If you're looking at the Jade ginger jar lamp, we are!" He reached up and gently extracted it from the multitude of items on each side.

Here was Fenton's #893 Jade ginger jar made into a lamp, and it *had a cutting*! I quickly verified the lamp with the photo in *Early Fenton Rarities 1907-1938* by Thomas K. Smith, and while the metal work was different, the glass with the cutting was identical. I was shaking as I reached for the price tag. "Green jadeite lamp" and a price that would not have allowed the two of us to eat dinner at Applebees. It was in desperate need of a good cleaning. Unfortunately, the metal work at the top is open to the interior of the jar and the inside retains quite a bit of dust from the ages. Regardless, after decades of searching for this true unicorn piece, it will go straight into our collection.



Fenton #893 Jade Ginger Jar lamp with light behind to show the floral cutting.

Great, rare glass is definitely still out there. Don't be afraid to stray from your regular shops to find it. A few extra miles can mean extraordinary finds!

Happy Hunting, dear friends!

