

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday Nov. 11th, 2006 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

We had a great program on the Gala show and tell - we enjoyed seeing a lot of nice glass. There was a 1976 Mandarin Red Jefferson Comport, a small coin dot French Opal. Cruet made for Graces Touch line. A one of a kind lamp that was painted by Fenton for the Gala's whimsy auction, a late 1920's diamond optic rose ice tea set that is featured in the above picture, a black rose hobnail basket made for QVC, a Silver Turquoise large comport, a small wild rose one of a kind vase painted by Martha Reynolds, a Blue Mist wheat basket, a large Wild Rose Feather Vase with a one of a kind painting, the Ghost Rider Flip vase Whimsey made for the Gala Whimsey and the Ghost Rider Vase from QVC, not at all alike. A Mulberry Vase with a dragonfly painted on it - Whimsey, a French Opalescent rib optic vase with applied butterfly, and a small Peacock Carnival bowl that showed up with a lot of wonderful fudge in it. Thank you Richard.

There was a small problem at the start of the meeting. One of our wonderful members brought in a whole bunch of items such as hand cream and scented soap and other neat things to give to anyone who wanted them. There was a small stampede by our female members who wanted some of these great items. Thank you Bill and Rita Chadd. I find as I get older that it is impossible to keep enough hand cream around.

Richard did manage to get a few things done at the meeting. He discussed plans for us to get together on Oct. 28th to go to Republic, Mo. to see Dave Fetty at Ann Fenton's shop, Fenton's Collectibles. More of that later in the newsletter.

Connie Duncan suggested that the club donate money to Harvester early this year as they are in need, it was decided to send them \$250.00 along with \$250.00 to the Dream Factory, Salvation Army, and Ronald MacDonald's house. Bernie Johnston also requested that we donate some of the glass that we have had made to the Cops for Tots Auction - the money collected at this auction goes to helping provide a good Christmas for children in need, we agreed that was a good use for our glass. What a great cause.

Bernie also mentioned plans for the Christmas party that will be on Dec. 9th, at the Old Town Buffet at 3:00 PM. I-435 and Bannister Road. If you need directions please let me or Bernie know and we will get you there). There will be lots of food and fun to be had as well as door prizes and dirty bingo. The club picks up the tab for the food and the only thing that I will say about dirty bingo is never count on wining that prize until the fat lady sings. The rules for that game will be explained at the dinner. So mark your calendar this is a chance for all of us to meet in a relaxing and fun place.

Harold and Doris Mayes will be doing the program on Westmoreland Glass in our Nov. meeting. This will give us all a chance to check out some of the wonderful glass produced by another great American Glass Co., Westmoreland. A group of business men started building a new glass factory in 1889 and producing glass in 1890. The factory was built in Grapeville, Penn. and was in production for almost 100 years. In the beginning the company was called the Specialty Glass Co., in 1923 after the factory changed hands a few times the name was changed to Westmoreland Glass Co. and stayed in production until 1984 when the doors closed on this great company.

Some of the patterns associated with Westmoreland were the Beaded Grape, Waterford Ruby Flashed, Paneled Grape, Old Quilt, and Drape and Tassle. This should be a great meeting with a lot of much needed information concerning Westmoreland.

Now as I promised in the last newsletter is part of Ron Dicks ABC's of Glassmaking. I will not be able to do the whole thing in one newsletter so be patient and all will be revealed in future newsletters. Caps = defects small print = slang

A

All-in = too tired to continue working

B

BLISTER - air bubble in glass

blocks - shapes glass on the blow pipe after first gather blowpipe –
hollow pipe to gather glass for blown ware

blowhard - connector that allows compressed air through a blow pipe blower –
head of blow shop

bottom plate - in mould

buffer - finisher's shaping tool

C

cabbage - extra money made on job (incentive) carry-in-boy –
worker who carries hot glass to the lehr

catch-out - catch ware when the mould opens

CHECK- an opening on surface that is no deeper than 1/16th" and no longer than 5/16", may be caused by cold tools, rings, paddles, plugs, rough rings, etc. Crimp checks may be caused by crimping to deep, burr on crimp, thin glass or glass not hot enough when crimped.

clean-off chest - cleans off excess glass on pipe

CORD - stringy surface irregularity, thread like line or lines curving around or up through the piece, batch defect - raking may help-adjusting temperature may help core machine - makes core

CRACKED - fracture in glass - (unfortunately most of us know first hand what this means)

Cullet - discarded glass with too many defects

D

DOG-LEG - guide for punty in tank opening the door - it is where is has always been

E

EXCESSIVE DOPE - too much spray on ware

F

FILL MARK - last place the glass comes together finisher - skill worker who reshapes glass

FLOW MARK - - this was not included in my handout so if anyone who has the information please send it to me and I will include the information in the next newsletter.

Now we have done our A's to F's, there will be more in the next newsletter until we have completed the ABC's of glassmaking. Ron Dick revealed plans to extend and better explain these terms in a book on glassmaking to be done sometime in the future - this information will be really great to have on hand for the collector so everyone who can please encourage Ron in this effort.

Well we have returned from Republic Mo. and Ann Fenton's shop, Fenton's Collectibles. What a outstanding shop. There is lots of natural light coming in from its many windows aiding in the appreciation of all the glass. Dave and Ada May Fetty were wonderful as always. Dave's seminar was full of information and humor. He brought along the new feather vase that Fenton just brought out with a progressive to show how it was made as well as a vase that will be out next spring.

The story on the last vase is that he made it a few years back from glass frit that he had collected during the work day. It was really neat but he set it to one side and forgot about it. Nancy Fenton saw it later on and asked him to make it again so that it could be placed in line. It had been a while since he made it and he had no idea how to do it again. Dave worked on it for a year before being able to reproduce the vase. The only thing I can say is it was well worth the effort. I am looking forward to getting mine.

There were lots of people at the shop and lots of shopping going on before and after the seminar. Ann provided lots of good food for us to munch on while we were waiting for the seminar to start and we got to visit with many old friends who belong to our club as well as new friends who were waiting to enjoy the program. My sister managed to find the lid to the large Northwood Dancing Ladies Lamp that she had got from Bev and Jack McKeehan. Ann had one to sell her, so she was really excited, I found the ruby opal. Ginger Jar that QVC had sold out of and one of the Crayons Eggs that Dave designed that was sold as a Showcase dealer exclusive, so I was really excited. In fact there seem to be a lot of excited people there taking out lots of glass. And a lot of glass there was. If you looked around you saw Fenton's early carnival glass, several dancing ladies bowls, hobnail, and Burmese, basically glass from 1910 to 2006 as well as glass from Blenko, LeVay, a local Springfield glass artist and some very large and outstanding pieces of glass from Russia. It can be said that the trip to Republic was well worth it for everyone. If you didn't make it down there this weekend, start planning a trip - I don't think you will be sorry.

Stanley Wood would like everyone to consider doing a display table for FAGCA. He said he saw some wonderful things at the Gala that he would really like to see in West Virginia in the coming year so everyone needs to think about helping out the national club. Many of our members do take their glass to West Virginia for the national conventions but many do not so they can really help by contacting Stanley (phyllisw07@verizon.net) and volunteering to do a table. Wouldn't you love to see the tree display again? I loved that display of Fenton's Christmas Trees - I don't recall seeing any display like it before - it along with many others that we have at the Gala really showcased Fenton glass in a way that is really original and educational.

Bernie wants everyone to know that there are a few of the sitting kittens with a blue rose painted on them left and that if anyone wants one he will be bringing in 3 or 4 to the Nov. meeting so you can pick one up there or you can contact him at bernie@fentonfinerskc.net, or 913-294-5728. He will be glad to help.

If you can, please join us for the November meeting so that we can show Harold and Doris how much we appreciate their work to provide the program on Westmoreland Glass. This will be our last meeting of the year as we really don't get much done in December besides having fun. Our next official meeting will be Feb. of 2007. That will also be the time dues for 2007 will be due. Of course many people have already renewed and since there is talk about raising the dues it may be a good idea to pay them before that happens. It should be added that anyone who joined at or around the time of the Gala (Sept.) is already a member in good standing for 2007. Hope to see you on Nov. 11th, and remember to start resting up for the holidays and bring some glass for show and tell.

Jackie Oglesby
Secretary

