

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday Sept. 9th, 2006 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7 :00 P.M.

Wish the picture above had been good enough to show you how wonderful this program was. When Steve used his black light to illuminate the glass it was breath taking. He had so many wonderful and rare examples of Chinese Yellow glass. Chinese Yellow is very hard to find except in a few of the common pieces that are fairly easy to find such as the 7" flip vase. Steve has been working hard on his collection as he not only had the flip vase and many other vases, he also had a etched lamp, a big cookies basket, many examples of bowls from very small to one that was very large, a ginger jar, a nymph, a vanity set that had Moonstone stoppers and a Chinese Yellow tray, candlesticks, a jug, 2 sherbets and a fan vase. Chinese Yellow was produced from the 1920's to the mid 1930's. It was not called Chinese Yellow until some pieces were made with oriental scenes painted on them.

Show and tell was very good this month as well; we will be challenged to come up with as good a show and tell in September as we had in August. There was a Green Burmese Nymph set that was sold on QVC, a Louise Piper Lamp a small crystal and a large French Opal. Dancing Ladies Vase from the 1920's, a wild rose etched console set from the 1920's, a Favrene ginger jar that had been designed and sand blasted by Martha Reynolds, a royal blue sherbet and glass with ruby feet, a large diamond optic Tangerine compote, a Mosaic vase, elephant and mushroom, a amethyst opalescent swung vase a black compote acid etched with silver, a silver crest appletree vase that was made ca. 1942 - 48, a Dave Fetty vase that was decorated with butterflies by Frances Burton, a Dave Fetty Panda from the Special Room, a Jamestown Blue vase with a bird decoration painted by Stacy Williams and a large Blenko vase. There were also many examples of large marbles with matching bases that were made by a former Fenton employee. They were really neat and we had lots of nice glass to check out.

Jon Spencer is in the hospital again with a attack of pancreatis. He is in the Shawnee Medical Center. Everyone let the Spencer's know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

I am sad to report that Carolyn Coyle passed away in her home suddenly. She was a former board member of the FAGCA and a regular attendee of the National conventions. Many of us remember her from the national conventions where she often sold glass. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Joy and Eric Livengood will do the September program on Cambridge Glass. Cambridge open their doors in 1901 but did not produce the first piece of glass, a 3 pt. pitcher, until 1902. Their first trademark, the words "Near Cut" was impressed in the glass starting in 1903 - 04. Arthur J. Bennett started as the plant manager but in 1907 raised enough capital to purchase the financially troubled company. He introduced a new trademark in the 1920's - the letter "C" enclosed in a triangle. The 1930's saw some of the most prolific production of glass in the company's history, including the production of their Caprice and Rose Point lines. In 1939 Mr. Bennet sold controlling interest in the company to his son in law, Wilber Orme. The company continued to produce new patterns and colors until the 1950's when the demand for hand made glassware decreased until in 1954 Mr. Orme closed the plant. It was purchased and reopened several times until 1958 when it closed its doors for the last time. It's molds and equipment was sold to the Imperial Glass Company. When Imperial declared bankruptcy in the 1980's the National Cambridge Collector's club purchased many of the molds to use in their Museum and have had other glass companies including Fenton produce glass from these molds to sell to help support their wonderful Museum in Cambridge, Ohio. If you want more information about this company and the wonderful glass that they produced you can go on line to get more information or check out the many books that have been written on Cambridge Glass Company.

On the Gala front just wanted to report that we have gotten the Whimseys in that Fenton has produced for us. They are great. Among their number is a very limited example of Dave Fetty's work that should get a lot of people excited about the Whimsey Auction. Richard also had Martha Reynolds paint some of her special one of a kind designs on some of Fenton's blanks. I can see that my credit cards may take a beating. Because of the limited number of some of the glass that we have had made for the Gala we have decided that to be fair that we will have a lottery to decide who will be able to buy the pieces. The rules of the drawings will be posted at the Gala so there will be as little confusion as possible. I think you will be please with these pieces if you are able to get one.

There are 19 people who have signed up to do a small table display so our room will be crowded with wonderful Fenton Glass. Hopefully everyone will be able to make it this year. So all of you people out there take care of yourself and make it to the convention. You know that we will miss you if you can't make it.

Talking about conventions one of our members brought home some gold from F AGCA. I guess I should say that their daughter brought home the gold. Jessica Snow, daughter of Paula and Jeff Snow won the Ferril Jean and Otis Rice education award for her table that celebrated the life of Frank Fenton. This is the last year that she will be able to set up a table on the children's section but it just shows that she will do great in the adult section. She brought home a satin finished Blue Burmese vase painted by Kim Barley. Way to go. Richard has promised to bring the Alley Cats to our meeting this time - for those of you who didn't make it in August, Richard was going to bring the cats in for everyone who had purchased them - but just getting back to Raytown from the national conventions and getting to work on the Gala, and moving, he forgot. He will also bring the books that everyone ordered in the last meeting. The price will be \$20.00 and as I have already picked mine up I am able to tell you that the price is cheap for what you are getting.

Now on to Fenton Fest - what is it. In the year 2007 Fenton will be celebrating its 100th year of producing glass. For those of you who are confused thinking didn't we just do that? The answer is no, in 2005 Fenton celebrated the 100th year anniversary of the start of the company. 2007 will mark the 100th year that they have been producing glass so things are building up again for a big blow out at Fenton. In case you are wondering what you can expect - well I'm not sure of all the things that will be going on but one thing will be that FAGCA will have their convention (July 31st to August 3rd) before NFGS (August 4th - 6th). That will be fun. It has not been decided yet when the Fair Grounds will be opened and when the School will start selling glass but there will be an auction of glass that belonged to Frank Fenton, that will occur during the NFGS convention. There will be much going on and for further information check the FAGCA, NFGS, or Fenton's Co. web site. I am sure they will have the information that we need to make plans soon. If not I will be trying to get more information for everyone after Gala 2006 is history.

Start getting ready for the Sept. meeting. The Livengood's are big collectors of Cambridge Glass so it is sure to be a wonderful program. Don't forget to pack up some glass for show and tell. This will be the last meeting before the Gala so there is sure to be a lot to talk about. If you order a Alley Cat be sure and come in to pick it up. Hope that you will be happy with yours - I am with mine. Have a happy and safe Labor Day Sept. 4.

**Jackie Oglesby
Secretary**