

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday July 8th, 2006 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

If you were unable to come to the meeting on June 10th let me tell you how sorry I am. The program was wonderful. Richard and Virginia Olds may have kept the program a secret but they did a lot of work to present an interesting as well as an informative program on Carnival Glass. They brought mostly vases as examples of Carnival Glass. These examples included glasses made by Imperial, Northwood, an oil lamp made in Mexico, a Levi Punch Bowl as well as many Fenton pieces. Richard explained that the way Carnival Glass is produced it to spray hot glass with mineral salts, this leaves a iridescent finish on the glass similar to oil on water. He also explained that Fenton almost never sprayed the foot or bottom of their glass. This might make it easier to id Fenton Carnival Glass except you do need to remember the almost never means that they did spray some. He also told us that Fenton was the Big Daddy of Carnival Glass - they had over 150 designs of Carnival Glass credited to them. They also produced it longer than any other company. In fact Fenton is still producing examples of this wonderful glass. You can find examples of this wonderful glass being produce today with the added feature of Fenton's beautiful hand painting.

Richard explained that his interest in glass began when he learned that glass is never a solid, it is always a liquid. This is the reason I first became interested in glass as well - for something to look solid, feel solid, and function as a solid to be liquid has always seem such a impossible fact. How can this be? One needs only look at a old window (at least 100 years old). The top will be thinner than the bottom. If you would reverse it (top to bottom and bottom to top) you will find, in another 100 years that the thickness has changed again. Since I don't plan to be around in another 100 years to check this out I've always taken the word of the experts for this. Thank you Richard and Virginia for working so hard to present this program and give us so much information.

We have heard from Dodi and Gary Levi, unfortunately they seem to be having more problems. Dodi is still fighting cancer with all the problems that brings and now Gary is recovering form triple bypass surgery. He is doing well but it takes a long time and is very difficult to recover from this surgery, especially when your main care giver is herself suffering from a very bad illness. Please let them know that they have our support and prayers.

Hope you have a wonderful and safe 4th of July. We will be celebrating it in our meeting on the 8th with a Red, White, and Blue club program. So bring your favorite Red, White, or Blue Fenton Glass to our meeting Saturday and be ready to enjoy some patriotic fun with Fenton. Does anyone have any of the patriotic glass that Fenton has been producing in the last few years? They would be a great addition to the program.

For show and tell we had a nice display of Fenton glass as well as well as some samples of glass made by other glassmakers. There was a very nice April showers carnival glass vase, a large multi color vase made by Blenko, a vase made by a local Springfield, Mo. glass artist. A 1984 Rose Velvet Connoisseur vase, Hand painted with Dogwood, a pair of French Opal. Coindot perfume bottles made for Whisley, a Black Ogee Candy Box (1980's) a Cameo Lily of the Valley Vase signed by Louise Piper and Don Fenton, a early 1930's Lilac Bowl, a Topaz Lamp with black base, also early 1930's. A pair of white stretch glass candlesticks made by US Glass, and a Diamond Optic Aquamarine hat basket with metal handle. A very nice showing.

Extra! Extra! Gala Extra!

Due to some unforeseen, unfortunate circumstances we will have only 78 of the numbered, hand painted Cobalt Blue Alley Cats for the Gala this year. Since we will have so few and there is no way to be sure who will be the first one to have ordered and paid for the Cats we have decided to put Alley Cats 1,2, & 3 for sale on Ebay so that everyone has the same chance to own # 1, 2, or 3. So if you are interested in owning # 1, 2, or 3, be sure to check out Ebay starting Sunday, July 2nd, when # 1 will be placed on sale. Check Fenton Alley Cats or check the Ebay seller id of rbj052 to find the listing. Alley Cat #2 will go on sell Sunday July 9th, and the 3rd will go on sell Sunday, July 16th. After that all cats will be shipped out or be handed out to buyers in the box - in other words we will not know if #4 or #78 is in the box. Good luck to everyone who is interested in owning one of the first three cats. The starting bid will be \$85.00 (includes shipping) which is the going price for the Cobalt Blue Alley Cat. We will have some special glass for sale at the Gala this year but I fear that there will be no hand painted, numbered Alley Cats for sale at that time, so get your orders in early and if you want #1,2, or 3 please check out Ebay on July 2nd. Good luck!

If you are planning on attending the national convention this year you may pick up your Alley Cat at that time as Richard Speaight will be picking up the cats from Fenton at that time, so you can save the expense of shipping. If you are planning on attending the Gala you will be able to pick them up there and save the shipping expense, or pick your cat up at the August 12th meeting if you don't want to wait for the Gala and don't want to pay for shipping. So many ways to do things that save the expense of shipping but don't worry if you need yours shipped to you we will start shipping out the cats on Aug. 14th. So glad that it is almost time to get those cats - I fell in love with them when I saw them on our bus trip to Fenton.

Now that this important information is out we will return to our regular channel. Hopefully everyone who has glass to put in the Gala auction has received the numbers for their glass from Connie Duncan at this time. If you have not received your numbers please let her know at fenton123@aol.com so that she can resend them to you. Please clean your glass before putting the numbers on them and pack them well to bring to the Gala. If you think the numbers will not stick on your glass go ahead and use some tape to help the number stay on the glass and place the number in an easy to see place on your glass. If you want the box you pack your glass in back please put your name on it with a note that you want it back. Otherwise it will be given to our buyers at the auction to use. Thanks

Have you been making a list of glass for the big display? Richard Speaight will need it by the July meeting so that he can start getting the display ready. He needs to know not only what the glass is but who painted it and if you know who designed it. There will only be 200 - to 250 pieces of glass used for this display and Fenton has had lots of painters so if you have a favorite that you want to see on the display please get your list to Richard. I've been getting my list together, it hasn't been easy since I am

between 2 houses and a lot of my glass is packed up so I've been taking pictures of the glass to give to him with my information about the painters and designers to help him decide.

Now the last bit about the Gala - please make your reservations at the Embassy Suites soon. The cut off date where you can get a special rate for the Gala is coming soon. The number is 816-891-7788 and remember to ask for the Gala rate when making your reservations and do it soon.

I am including this bit of information that was posted on the Fenton Fanatics Website. They posted with the caveat that they were not responsible for any damage to your glass due to using the products, that the products were used and recommended by other collectors and have not been tested by the FAQ authors. They added, use at your own risk. I am echoing this warning. If you need to work on your glass due to some stain that is not taken care of by your usual methods please feel free to try some of these process but be aware that some may damage your glass and use them only if you feel that you do not have a choice. Fenton Finders of Kansas City is not responsible for any damage to your glass due to using these products, this is just information that we are passing on that may or may not work as well as what you already use. As I have not tried any of these methods either I can not either recommend them or advise against using them. This started with the question - What are some of the products I can use for cleaning off sticky substances like glue residue from the labels and price tags or rust stains from the insides of vases etc ?

The following products have been listed by collectors to clean glass:

Goo-Gone - do not use on satin glass, it may leave an oily stain

Warm soapy water - to remove stickers you may have to let them soak for awhile

Polident Denture cleaning tablets - - may help remove rust stains if left over night

CLR (Calcium, Lime and Rust remover) - suggested for the inside of stained glass vases

Shell Buzzy Formula

WD-40-do not use on satin glass as it may leave an oily stain

Armor-All - Frank Fenton suggests for cleaning Favrene and it should help to remove those white spots.

It has also been suggested that Armor-All is effective for cleaning and shining satin glass.

Bon-Ami - another product suggested for satin glass

Soft Scrub - suggested for cleaning satin glass and particularly black scuff marks Zud Cleanser - another

Frank Fenton suggestion - make a paste, scrub with toothbrush, rinse thoroughly for satin glass

Lime-a-way - also for rust stains

SOS pad - rust stains on smooth unpainted glass but be careful and never use it on satin glass

Oxalic Acid - has been used for really tough rust stains - can be found at a hardware store in crystal form

- make a solution and let it sit-may also require a little abrasion

Whink - Also suggested for rust stains

If you want more information please check out the Fenton Fanatic's website.

And remember to be careful when you use these products - they may or may not work for you but they may also cause damage if used without care.

And now for changes, corrections and or additions to the roster.

New Members >> Sarah Plummer Vicki Payne (Addresses Omitted for the Internet Version)

Give them a big FFOGKC welcome. Please join us for the July 8th meeting and celebrate the 4th of July with Red, White, and Blue glass. Have a happy and safe 4th,

Jackie Oglesby
Secretary