

## FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th, Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

What a fun meeting we had in May. It was obvious that many of us got our start in collecting on QVC. There has been a lot of wonderful and beautiful glass made for QVC and we managed to bring in a small sample to share with our fellow collectors.

It has been another month with no bad news, at least none that has been shared with me. I hope everyone out there is doing okay and had a good Memorial Day weekend. If you have any news that you would like to share with your fellow members please let me know so that we can update everyone.

The Gala committee got together to make sure plans are going well. The hotel is already reporting that we have a lot of reservations. They have asked us to help them out this year by using a different room for our big glass display. As many of you know they have lots of large rooms for functions and for the best use of space for all the things that are going on the weekend of the Gala they needed the one that we have used for the last few years. They always go all out to make sure we have everything we need so Richard told them no problem we would be glad to help. We will be in the same location just a few doors down from where you are used to seeing us. Glass sales will be in the same place.

We are going to open registration up early this year and if that works well for everyone we will continue to do that to make it easier for everyone who gets to the hotel early to get the business part of the Gala done and start on the fun. Registration will start at 1:00

PM and end at 4 PM. The hospitality room will again open early - at least by 12 PM - maybe earlier depending on when we get the room organized. This is again to help the people who get to the hotel early and need a place to wait for their room to be opened up and also to make sure that all the people who are working on the big display, glass sales, registration and all the other work to get the Gala moving have someplace to get something to eat and drink and maybe have a minute to sit and rest.

Okay I have to be honest, it is really nice to have some place where we can meet and talk with people we have not seen in a year, we can catch up on everything that has been happening and talk about Fenton and all the great buys that we found this year as well as what we hope to find at the Gala.

Janet Wilke will get the registration forms out soon, perhaps before you get this newsletter. As you may have noticed we will not be sending out cards this year. It was decided that it would be just as easy to send the registration forms out with all the information that you need. Please, if you are planning on attending the Gala this year, make your room reservation early. There is a lot going on at the hotel this year and they are filling up fast. The number is 816-891-7788. The good news is that if something happens and you are unable to attend there is no charge for canceling your rooms as long as you do it 24 hours before you are due to arrive. And if you contact Joy Livengood (Joy takes care of all business with room reservations) before canceling your reservations she may have someone who wants to take it over. There will be more information on this in future newsletters.

Also be sure and indicate on the registration form for the Gala that you want to sell glass from your room, she will try to make sure that you will be located on the second floor. Sometimes this is not possible because of the number of people with glass for sale. So, the sooner you send in your registration form with the information that you have glass for sale, the better. Also make sure when you are making your reservation with the hotel to let them know if you want a table in your room for glass.

We will again have room for 20 small display tables in the room where we have the big display so if you would like to have a display please indicate on your registration form. This is a fun project and a great way to learn more about your own glass as well as seeing glass other people collect that you don't see very often anywhere except in books.

We have decided on the glass we will sale for this year for the Gala. It has not been produced as yet but will be soon. Like last year we will be doing presales. That is you will be able to order your glass and pick it up at the Gala or it will be shipped to you after the Gala if there are any remaining. Since this is the souvenir of the 2010 Gala we like to make sure that everyone who attends the Gala gets one before sending any remaining glass out to anyone who would like one.

Oh, you are saying get on with it just what is the souvenir piece this year? We will have a Ruby W/ White Slag Head Alley Cat. As last year most of the cats will be shiny with just a few satin finish cats. Because the satin finished cats are going to be limited we may

have to sale them by lottery. That will be decided when we find out how many we will have. We will also have some of the #5165 sitting cats in the same treatment. The cats will sell for the same price as last year. All this information will be on the registration form that Janet is sending out.

As mentioned in our last newsletter the auction is full. Steve and Connie have lists from the glass sellers. I have not seen the list as yet but I did get to see the glass that one person has assigned. Wow. There is going to be more than a little excitement for the Saturday morning auction. For everyone who has glass in the auction the only thing left for you to do, after cleaning your glass, is to take pictures of the glass with a digital camera, if possible, and either get the pictures downloaded on a disk or if you would send the SD card or whatever you use to Steve and Connie or Bernie Johnston. They will return your card when they have it downloaded. The pictures will be sent to Jim Wroda so that he can post them on his website before the auction so that more people will be able to see what we have in our auction. That means all our members will be able to check out the glass for sale before they get to the Gala. That will be nice.

As you know our special guest speaker for our banquet will be Kelsey Murphy. I am so looking forward to meeting her and learning more about her art.

Richard Speaight is in charge of the big display that will feature her glass, including some of her work from Pilgrim Glass as well as Fenton so he needs everyone who is willing to include some of their glass in the display to let him know what glass they have and perhaps include pictures since he will not be able to look up any of the Pilgrim glass to see what they are. This way he can make plans for the display. The display will be called Cameo & Sandcarved Glass as it will also include many pieces of sandcarved glass that Fenton produced in the past like the Danielle vase or the Sophisticated Lady vase so please include those on your list and get them to him as soon as possible.

If you have any pieces from the Special Room or one of a kind that can be included please let him know, these always add interest. The big display takes a lot of planning so Richard needs your list and or pictures as soon as possible to get the displayed planned.

For our Friday morning seminar, Ann and John Fenton have agreed to do a seminar on Building a Hot Glass Studio. Many of you may remember Ann's seminar on September Mom Nymphs a few years ago. Not only was it very enjoyable we all learned a lot about this favorite Fenton collectable. As many of you know Ann and John opened Fenton Collectibles in 1996. Ann is the brains and John the brawn. With lots of hard work, the store became the #1 Fenton Art Glass dealer in the nation. With this goal met, they bought a building on the interstate, expanded their website and started a little hot glass studio. With friends like Dave Fetty, Ronnie Dick and the Fenton family, the studio is becoming much more than just a place to demonstrate handmade art glass being made. Come to the seminar to hear details.

For more information and updates on the Gala as well as our meetings please check out our website, [www.fentontinderskc.net](http://www.fentontinderskc.net) Bernie Johnston is our webmaster and I think that you will agree that he does a wonderful job.

Janet Wilke has a new email address, please update your roster, [kenwilke@cox.net](mailto:kenwilke@cox.net), this is a important email address as Janet is our treasurer so if you have problem with your membership or if you need to find out how much something is she is the person to contact.

The program for our next meeting will be a group program on pitchers that could be water pitchers, creamers, syrup pitchers, etc., etc. So please bring your pitchers, big and small, to our meeting in June and don't forget your glass for show and tell. I hope you had a great Memorial Day weekend and will see you June 12th.

Jackie Oglesby, Secretary  
[www.fentonfinderskc.net](http://www.fentonfinderskc.net)