

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders Greater Kansas City will be Saturday September 11th, 2009 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

The time is growing short. Gala 2009 will be here before we are ready. There is still glass to collect for the big display and labels to make. Auction glass needs to be cleaned and packed, as does the glass for the small display tables. Treats need to be made and plans made for what to get for the hospitality room. The list just keeps getting longer and time just keeps going faster and faster.

For those of you who still need to make your reservations the time and the number of rooms available is getting limited. So call the Embassy Suites at 816-891-7788 and request the Gala rate. The dates are September 17th, 18th and 19th. If you have any problems please contact either Bev Spencer or Joy Livengood. (Ed Note: email and phone numbers omitted from internet version) If they can they will get you a room. Please don't wait for the last minute as they may not be able to help you. If any of you have any last minute problems and find that you are unable to come after all please let them know first so if they have anyone who needs your room they can make the arrangements.

We have used the last few newsletters to study some of the wonderful glass that Fenton made during the Second Twenty Five Years. Of course we didn't get the chance to check out even a small portion of the glass that they made at that time. It must have been a very exciting as well as frightening time for the Fenton family as well as the many talented

and skilled workers. The depression caused many well respected and seasoned companies to fail. So many people lost their jobs, their homes and their hopes for the future. Fenton managed to stay in production but suffered many hardships. When things started getting better for Fenton it was only to find that World War II would take some of it's talented employees, friends and family away. So many things improved for the company during this time. People who could no longer get the glass from Europe that they wanted turned to Fenton, at the same time the demands of the war took away some of Fenton's ability to make some glass. The economy improved and Fenton enjoyed a new prosperity.

It would be easy to compare that time with now with so many people out of work and so many people losing their homes. Fenton is again struggling to survive. There is a war going on that we see, in a way, that our parents and grandparents did not see World War II. In many ways our hopes for the future has dimmed. There are many signs that things may be getting better, slowly, ever so slowly. We can only hope that things will get better for all who are struggling to survive these times. I am seeing sold signs on homes and more families moving into those homes. There is hope that the worse is behind us and that we can start working again to make a secure future for ourselves and our families.

Now is the time to set aside some of our fears for the future and to celebrate the now; our friends and family and our love of Fenton glass. In truth there has always been something to fear in the future and the only time we have for sure is now. So if you are able please plan on coming to the Gala and celebrate with us not only the second Twenty Five years of Fenton but also the second century of Fenton Art Glass.

As you may have noticed we spent a lot of time on some of my favorite pieces that Fenton made during the 2nd Twenty Five years. Does that mean that I don't care for the rest? Not hardly. We just ran out of time. And since so many people are unaware of some of the glass that Fenton made, like the acid etch glass, it made sense to spend some time on it as well as some of the more famous kinds of glass that Fenton made such as Hobnail. Who has not looked at a piece of Coin Dot (or Hobnail) sitting in a window with the sun shining on it and thought wow. Ruby is a long time favorite. Made not only in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th twenty five years but also in the 2nd century. Pekin Blue, Blue Overlay, Emerald Green Snowcrest, all the various crests, Black Rose, Peach Blow, Rose Pastel, Rose Overlay, Milk Glass and Moonstone as well as Lilac, French Opalescent and the original, Blue Ridge. Blue Ridge is the first crest that Fenton ever made. Ruby overlay, Cranberry Opalescent and Rib Optic and Spiral Optic, Turquoise and Green Pastel, Ebony, Mandarin Red, Mongolian Green as well as Periwinkle Blue.

How many were missed? Quite a few. Let me know if there is any that you want to know more about and we will try to get some information in the newsletter about them. Always remember that we welcome anyone who would like to do an article for the newsletter. So if you have a favorite glass or treatment or maybe a favorite memory that you would like to share please let me know. The more we share the more we gain.

More news on the Gala front. As many of you know every year we auction off a piece of glass to benefit the children's fund for FAGCA. This helps not only FAGCA but it gives

our young people a chance to learn more about Fenton and have fun while their elders are enjoying the National Convention. It also provides a lot of educational opportunities for young people. This year the glass we will auction is one made by one of our own members. Young and talented Niki Snow (daughter of Paula and Jeff Snow) not only made the glass she will walk the glass for us when it is auctioned off. Paula, Jeff, I know that you want that piece of glass but I just don't know if you will be able to get it. Good Luck.

Now let's welcome some new members to our happy group.

Toni A. Wyman Joan L. Burbach Sydni Wessels

Jim Brownfield Shirley Henderson

(Ed. Note: Address and email omitted from the internet version)

Please let me know if there are any mistakes and they will be corrected as soon as possible. For our older members please don't forget to renew your membership. Dues are due on October 15th. Send your check or money order to FFOGKC, PO Box 67071, Topeka, KS 66667-0071 (\$5. individual and \$7.50 family)

Steve Duncan has the auction list done and it is up on our website. To check it out go to www.fentonfinderskc.net Jim Wroda also has our list and pictures of some of the glass that we have for sale so check his website out as well. All I do to get to it is to search for Jim Wroda Auction Service. It will bring up his database of live auctions. For some high lights we will have a Rose September Morn Nymph, Lime Opal Rib Optic 12 " Decanter with 4 wines, Cranberry L.G. Wright Daisy & Fern Cruet, 80 oz. Cranberry Opal. Hobnail pitcher, Custard Hanging Hearts Cruet, Ruby Franklin Decanter with 4 glasses, Ruby mixing bowls, 6 1/2" and 7 1/2" (rare and rare), Lotus Mist Green GWWL HP Rose Nector #55050Y, a Pekin Blue Big Cookies Basket, and many more - a total of 243 wonderful pieces of old and newer Fenton. Check out the list and for information about terms of sale as well as how to do a absentee bid check out our website.

For those of you who are coming to the Gala don't forget the goodies for the hospitality room. Whatever you do don't forget to bring something for our members who can not eat sugar.

One meeting is left before the Gala. Richard has stepped up and will do the program. He thought it might be on Red Carnival glass but was not sure so don't be surprised at anything. Don't forget to bring in some glass for show and tell. It is ever so much fun and exciting to see the treasures that we all find while out shopping the sales and on ebay. Have a safe holiday and try to rest up for all the fun we are going to have at the Gala.

Jackie Oglesby,
Secretary

www.fentonfinderskc.net