

Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City has been cancelled due to the stay at home order for Kansas City.

We send our condolences to the friends and family of Wilma Bender, a longtime member who passed early in March. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends at this sad time.

Sadly, at this time we must keep all our friends and families in our thoughts and prayers as we struggle thru this pandemic. Many have already sickened, and many have already passed. While there are other countries that have beaten it there are many more that like us are just beginning to see how horrible this virus is. We will in time find the way to defeat this disease as we have others but until then please take care of yourself and if you can find a way to help others please do. Make sure that someone who should not go out on their own because they already have health problems have a way to get groceries or other needs. Many have lost their income and need any help that can be given. If you are able this is a time for us all to pull together for the good of all, even if we must do it at a distance. We stand together or fall alone.

The weather in Kansas City is making the stay at home order even more depressing than it would be if we could only see the sun for a day or two it might make it seem like a less depressing situation. For the last week it has been cold and wet which of course means that it is easy for those of us who are older to catch colds and the flu, just something else to worry about. We would really like to see a day or two of sunshine. Hopefully others are having better weather than we are.

Our March meeting was cancel at the request of the police department where we meet due to the virus so there is nothing to report in the newsletter about March's meeting however as can be seen in the above

picture there is something to review in our February meeting. The program for February was on early Fenton Vanity Sets and at that time all the information that I had from the books that I have was that the #16, 17, 54 bathroom sets were the only vanity items that was produced in acid etch glass, however as can be seen in the above picture this is something else that I was incorrect about. This picture was copied out of the Bedroom & Bathroom Glassware of the Depression Years by Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer. This is a book that I just acquired and was very surprise to see the #1502 powder box in Crystal San Toy sitting on the diamond shape tray that is most often found holding an Ivy Ball. Per the Whitmyers in their book Fenton Art Glass 1907 to 1938 the #1502 vanity set was made in Rose, Ruby, Green, and Blue. However, if there is a powder box in San Toy there should be some perfumes in San Toy as well, these should be hard to find but fun to look for.

Now a word from our President, Jason Herman



Because we care about the safety of our members, we will not be meeting in April. I am hopeful that we will be able to meet in May. As it gets closer, we will be able to make that call. In case we don't know at the start of May, I recommend joining our clubs Facebook page if you haven't done so. I try and post pictures from our meeting, and it is a good place to show off some of your glass, as we are not getting out like most of us like to. Also, it is a good place to get information, if we have to make a last-minute decision about May's meeting. Of course, that information would be emailed out as well to everyone who is getting the newsletter emailed to them. In the meantime, stay safe until we can see each other again.

Your President,
Jason Herman

Now a word from our Vice President, Connie Duncan



I hope you didn't get fooled on April 1st.

Know your shapes, colors and sizes. Always have the reference books available to check. There are many groups on Facebook and the internet that can also be of help to you.

One group of glass that does not get much attention and we should be aware of is Fenton International. Fenton International was made in China and appeared in 2008. It

was Fenton's intention to market it worldwide and still produce hand made glass in Williamstown for sale in the USA only. Fenton had hoped this would help the Fenton business that was struggling. Fenton sold other items in the gift shop besides Fenton. The Fenton International items consisted of glass, ceramics and other gift ware and was imported from China.

Fenton International was all marked with a logo that looked like the world globe with the script f in the middle. Teleflora sold many pieces of this glass.

DO NOT BE FOOLED

At this time, I do hope every member is safe and in good health. Everyone is having to make lots of changes in their lifestyle. Now might be a good time to open up those Fenton reference books and enjoy what they have to offer. There is also lots of different Fenton groups on the internet. Since you cannot attend auctions in person many of the auctioneers are doing proxy bid, flex bidding and call in. Lots of other auctions on the internet too. Of course, there is always eBay to scan through.

Easter is just around the corner and here is hoping everyone has a safe and healthy Easter.

Your Vice President
Connie

Thank you, Connie. And now.



Finds from the Road

Is It Orange or More? By Anne Blackmore

On one of our recent trips to Florida, Max and I found a lot of really nice glass at an antiques market we attended. We were making a trip back to the car to drop off some purchases, when we saw a large, bright orange bowl shining up at us in the southern sunshine.

Stopping and staring at it, the shape looked really familiar. It had many small panels, some points around the top edge, and three large, curled feet. Then it dawned on us, not only was it Fenton, it was the old #249 bowl mould. Typically one sees this mould in crystal satin with etches like Ming, San Toy, and Wisteria. Neither of us had ever seen it in a color, any color. (Continued on page 6)

Meanwhile, pictures of Big displays of the past



2005



2006



2007



2008



2009



2010

We looked for a logo, wondering if it had been brought out during the production of Orange Slice. Nope, no logo. And the color just did not seem right for it to be the Orange Fenton made in the 1960s. So, we kept thinking back. Suddenly, Max's eyes lit up. He softly whispered, "Tangerine. It's Tangerine." Of course! Old mould, old color.

So, we both checked over the bowl, feeling all the edges and feet, holding it up to the light looking for damage to the sides. After determining it was completely intact, we came to an agreement with the man selling it. Continuing on our way to the car, we delighted in our good fortune. While Max packed up all the glass into our bins, I looked for the Tangerine bowl in our traveling books. It was not in any of the Fenton books we brought with us - nothing by the Whitmyers, Smith, Domitz, or Walk. Perhaps it was made for another company (records were not strong back in the day), a craftsman made it for a sweetheart, or maybe they were just tinkering around looking for the next great thing. It's difficult to know.

Once again, knowing our shapes helped us find a treasure. Finding a known shape in a previously undocumented color is exhilarating. Time spent reading and studying collector books is time well spent. While most of us are past the age of required homework, let us always be eager and open to learning new things!

Happy hunting, dear friends!

Thank you, Anne

While all this is going on there is more planning going on for the Gala in September. We are asking people to start looking around to see what glass that they have that would look good in our big display. We plan to celebrate 20 years of Gala glass in this display which will be a huge challenge for Dan Madura to put together so now will be a good time, while we are all in lock down at home, to look around and see if there is any glass that would look good on the big display table. We do not have a complete list of glass needed; it will be included in the next newsletter, but we have enough to get everyone looking. This display will feature glass that we have had on display for 20 years of big displays. The plan is to get ten pieces of glass that was featured each year of the last twenty Galas. The first one is easy, water sets. In fact, we have done two big displays on water sets. We also did The First Twenty-Five Years as well as the Second Twenty-Five Years. There was the wonderful display on Hobnail that was just beautiful, as well as a display on Cameo Glass that featured Kelsey Murphy. There was Opulent Optical glass as well as the very difficult to set up display on Lamps that we could do over and over and not get all the lamps that Fenton has made over the years. The Barber Collection was wonderful. Last year's Gala that featured Michael Dickinson and Fenton Art Glass Americana had some very nice pieces of glass. Many of which I wish were in my collection.

This is not a complete list however it is something that should give everyone something to start looking for. Dan is not quite ready to get things set up as yet but hopefully we will have the complete list in our May newsletter along with instructions on how to get the information to Dan so that he can start putting this together. As you can guess this will be a huge undertaking and all the plans are not complete but with your help it should make for a wonderful display. Hopefully all the information that you need will be in the next newsletter and even more hopefully we will be making plans to meet in May. But since many of us are at home now with little to do so take a minute to look at the list of past Gala's on the fentonfinderskc.net website and see if you have some glass that should be featured on the big display this year. Not all the Galas are listed there but we will have the complete list posted soon. We will be getting with Dan to see if he has considered what he will be needing and will published that in the newsletter as soon as possible.

Until next month take care of yourself and your family. Stay safe and help those you can.

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary

