

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The JULY meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City has been cancelled. At this time the people in charge of the police headquarters where we hold our meetings are unsure about all the rules and regulations that need to be in place so that we can use their meeting room so we are waiting until August to see if things have been settled so that we can meet safely.



Now a word from our President, Jason Herman
It's July already?? Time seems to have lost a bit of meaning since we started staying at home and got even worse once Summer break began. It's easy to forget what day it is, let alone the month, when the only thing I have to remember is the garbage goes out on Thursday! As things have started to slowly and cautiously open up around Kansas City, we have found a few treasures here and there. Thanks to the hospitality of Ross Smith and Connie Duncan, the Gala Committee was able to meet, at a safe social

distance, to further discuss and plan for our 2020 Gala. You should have received your registration forms in the mail earlier this month. Aren't those pumpkins gorgeous? It almost goes without needing to be said, but I'll say it anyway, everything is fluid and changes might occur, but we are still planning at this time to have the Gala this September. We want everyone to be able to attend and enjoy the wonderful friendship and glass as we always do, but we also want everyone to be safe. You can still book hotel rooms through the website or by calling the hotel directly. Remember, if you want to sell from your room, please contact me so I can try to get you on the second floor. We only have a few rooms left on that floor, so we might have a Gala first with the third floor selling as well!! Wouldn't that be wonderful? Don't forget to check out the list of previous Gala Big Displays to see what you might be able to bring for our 20-year retrospective. What a sight it will be to have all those different things in one giant display! Thank you, Jason.

We think that you will agree with us that this pumpkin is wonderful and available for presale at the cheap cheap price of \$55 when you register for the Gala. John Fenton will be making these to order for us and they will be delivered at the Gala. We hope that there will be a few extra available for sell at the Gala but cannot guarantee that there will be so if you would like to have one of these beautiful pumpkins please order them when you send in your registration for the Gala.

As Jason has stated the Gala committee has met and are making plans, we cannot be sure of what the situation will be a month from now or even a week from now but we are doing our best to make the Gala happen and to make it safe as well as the same as in past years, at least as much as is possible. Kansas City Mo has ordered masks in public places so if that is still in place in September, we will all be wearing masks at the Gala. However they are allowing restaurants to open to bigger crowds, not fully as yet but if the masks and hand washing help stop the spread of the virus we can hope that life will be somewhat more normal for us in September than it is right now. Please use your own good judgement on what is safe for you and look at the situation that we are in when September rolls around. We may be looking at the long awaited low infection counts with no restrictions or warnings or we may be in the same situation as we are now and not sure what is safe and what is not, we will let you know what is happening to the best of our ability. The hotel is trying to keep up with things and we are keeping in contact with them but they cannot tell us at this time what will be happening in September, we know that they are still under some restrictions as far as serving meals and they are paying more attention to cleaning rooms which means we might have to wait longer to get in a room but that would be well worth the wait.

Dan Madura has some more info for us about the big display
Glass needed for big display:

We are going to do a retrospect of the last 20 year's big displays. Listed below are the displays for the last twenty years. I have included how many pieces we are looking to display representing each year. We would like to display the best of the best.

After last month's newsletter, I have had two submissions. Do not be afraid to send a big list. You will not have to bring all that glass. Beginning in August, I will go through the list, eliminate duplicates, and narrow submissions by year. I will then get back to you on what to bring. I will be very conscious of the number of pieces, so you don't have to pack too much.

Year	Big Display Theme	# Pieces Needed
2000 & 2012	Water Sets (2000 & 2012)	4
	Guest Sets (2012)	4
	Tumble Ups (2012)	4
2001	Epergnes	6
2002	First 25 Years of Fenton	12
2003	Early Hobnail in Opalescent Color	
	Blue	2
	Cranberry	2
	French	2
	Green	2
	Topaz	2
2004	Burmese in Rose, Blue and Lotus Mist	12
2005	The Century of Fenton Art Glass 1905-2005	12
2006	Handpainted By...	12
2007 & 2015	The Artistry of Dave Fetty	12
2008	Favrene, Rosalene & Ruby	12
2009	The Second 25 Years of Fenton	12
2010	Cameo and Sand Carved	12
2011	The Barber Collection - 35 Years Later	8
2013	<i>A Centennial of Glass Making 1907-2007 & Beyond</i> by Debbie & Randy Coe	12
2014	Lighting the Way with Fenton Lamps	7
2016	<i>Designer Special</i> Featuring Martha Reynolds	12
2017	Opulant Optics	
	Coin Dot	2
	Polka Dot	2
	Wedding Ring	2

	Spiral	2
	Daisy & Fern	2
	Drapery	2
	Diamond	2
	Rib	2
	Swirl	2
	Honeycomb	2
	Window Pane	2
	Stars & Stripes	2
	Dot Mitre	2
	Heart	2
2018	Fenton Art Glass Made for Others	12
2019	<i>Fenton Art Glass Americana</i> Featuring Michael Dickinson	12
	Total	215

We start setting the display the Thursday morning of the Gala. We would like to have all glass by that time. It would be helpful if you could unpack your glass before and you must pack it after. All glass needs to be labeled on the bottom with your last name. It helps us sort when we take the display apart.

I need the following information by August 1st if you would like to submit glass:

- Your Name
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- For Each Piece:
 - Big Display Year and Theme
 - Artist (If painted)
 - Year(s) Produced
 - Detailed Description
 - Photo (if possible) The photo helps me plan the groupings of the display.

The above information can be emailed to me at dmadura26@gmail.com. Put "Gala Display" in the subject field. If you cannot email the information, please call me at 816-560-3738 and I will give you my mailing address.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me.

Dan Madura
Big Display Coordinator

Thank you, Dan. Please send in your list with the information requested as soon as possible. Putting together the big display is very difficult and it takes a lot of work to plan on how to display the pieces the best way possible so each piece can be featured in a way that shows off its beauty. We have sent in our list and did so by picking a year to focus on, since we collect mostly glass from the Second Twenty-Five Years of Fenton that is the glass, we picked to send to Dan. The great thing about this is many of these pieces can also fit into other display years, such as *A Centennial of Glass Making 1907-2007* or *The Century of Fenton Art Glass 1905-2005*, some could be used in *Opulent Optics*. We all have glass that would work for this display and if you are as proud of your glass as we are please send Dan your information. The display cannot be planned until he has a list of all the glass that is needed so he can make his plan. Thank you everyone for your help in getting this together. Please believe us that we take very good care of your wonderful glass when it is on display.

Speaking about displays don't forget to get you small table display ready for the Gala. We are very excited about the small table displays after the wonderful displays we had last year. They will be hard to beat but we are sure that they can be. Our glass is already packed and ready to go, how about you?



Finds from the Road

Looking Back Down the Road

By Anne Blackmore

With all our favorite shops and markets closed, I decided to share one of my favorite historical Finds from the Road. When Max and I were dating, we lived in different states, him in Indiana, and me in Wisconsin. I belonged to the Depression Era Glass Society of Wisconsin and they welcomed Max with

open arms. We enjoy attending those club meetings to this day and travel five hours each way to attend.

The club takes bus trips a couple of times yearly, generally attending large antique markets or going to several antique malls in a day. It is a lot of fun shopping with like-minded people! Before we were married, we decided to participate in a trip headed to three large antique malls, and at the first stop there were two of the malls, one across the road from the other. This meant the bus could park once and club members were responsible for walking across the road between the two locations.

Most of the busload of people went into the north side mall, and we decided to head south. We found many nice things and when we were done there, we carried our treasures back to the bus. By this time, most of the club members who had gone to the north mall were working their way across to the south mall. We headed into the north mall, figuring it had been picked clean, with all those shoppers who had just passed through.

The first aisle produced nothing, and about one-third of the way down the second aisle, Max just stopped cold in front of a large case. Then he started dancing from his left foot to his right foot, and back again. Very hoarsely, he whispered, "Please get me a key!" I quickly noted the case number and out of the corner of my eye, saw what had enraptured him.

I hurried to the front desk and a very nice lady with a ring of keys came back with me to the case. She pulled out a very large, mottled vase, with a tag indicating it was a "Czech Vase." Max and I just looked at each other and nodded almost imperceptibly.

Here was a very scarce to rare Fenton Sung Ko #898 vase! According to Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer in *Fenton Art Glass 1907-1939*, Sung Ko was produced by Fenton in approximately 1935. The glass has the appearance of pottery, and is generally a mix of dark red, greenish, and black colors. Whitmyers also state the effect was achieved by encasing the glass piece in clay embedded with metallic salts. Through a heating process, those metallic salts were transferred to the glass, producing the interesting and unique patterns. From what Max and I have been able to determine, the Sung Ko process was used on Mandarin or Venetian Red pieces. This can be seen when one holds a piece up to bright light and the only color that shows is the underlying red. Sadly, according to Frank M. Fenton, the Sung Ko process was lost by the factory and they were not able to reproduce it in later years.

The tag price on this Sung Ko #898 was less than \$100, and the dealer was offering an additional twenty percent off. Max was absolutely overjoyed! The only one he had seen previously sold at auction for nearly \$2,000. He carried the vase up to the front (not letting the lady with the keys carry it). And after we checked out, he did not stow it in our bins under the bus; he carried it on his lap as though it were an infant.

It's difficult to believe this stunning vase was still there after a whole bus full of glass shoppers had just gone through the mall, but Max knows his Fenton books inside and out and probably has one of the largest Sung Ko collections in the country. He knows it when he sees it! Just one more good reason to truly study those collector books!

We hope you are well, dear friends. And we, like you, cannot wait to get out and get hunting again!

Thank you, Anne. That is excellent advice to collectors of all kinds and of all things. Read the books and study what you collect, it is surprising how much enjoyment is increased by not only knowing the history of something but knowing how it was made. Not to mention the joy of finding something that is rare and hard to find that has been overlooked by others just because you took the time to study. Congratulation Max on your great find.

It is time to close and sadly we will not meet again in July, hopefully August will be the month, it is the last before the Gala. until then stay safe and keep looking for that wonderful piece of Fenton that is needed to complete your collection so that when we do have our next meeting, we will be able to share all our great finds with our friends. Have a safe and joyous 4th of July.

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary

