

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



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

Time passes so fast when you are staying at home and looking at your computer trying to find a piece of Fenton on either eBay or an online auction. So, it is with surprise that we realized that it was already late in May and June was just days away, when we started the newsletter, hopefully we will be spending more time outside enjoying the pleasant

weather in June. We are still wearing masks for our safety and the safety of others but that is a minor detail when going out and enjoying the wonderful weather and breathing fresh air. Each home that we pass on our daily walks we look at and judge – do they need to cut the grass or paint the trim? Hey, that lamp in the window maybe Fenton and would they mind if we take a closer look? When oh when are the estate sells coming back? We are seeing signs posted for garage sells, can estate sells be far behind? The online auctions have been very impressive. The last one that we looked at and tried to purchase a piece of wonderful Fenton stretch glass worked very well. They identified all of the glass and all of the pictures that were posted could be enlarge for a better view and many when clicked on had more than one picture of the piece that was for sale. Sadly, we did not win any of the pieces that we wanted but it was a joy just to participate. Just as sadly the price for buying the pieces were increase greatly by the buyer's premium plus the cost for packing and shipping. But it is worth considering that the money spent on the buyer's premium would have been the same if we had been at the auction but the added expense of packing and shipping was still less than it would have cost to travel to the auction and stayed a night or two at a hotel. It is not nearly as much fun as taking the trip and stopping at antique malls. Of course, they are close anyway so biding on the computer was just as easy and maybe in the long run cheaper. Let's face it, it is so much more fun when we can see other people and visit, if only to say can you believe that sold for that much?

And now a word from Connie Duncan, our vice president



Hi Everyone

Hope this finds everyone in good health and safe. We have pass Mother's Day and moving forward to Father's Day so here is wishing everyone the best.

May 4th Frank L. Fenton and his brother John pooled their money of \$284.86 and The Fenton Glass Company was born. That was 115 years ago.

I have high hopes that antique malls, estate sales and garage sales will open soon. There have been some great online auctions that I have watched plus flash sales. The set above I saw at the Gala last year on an individual table display. It is the Fenton colonial orange #9210 OR Coaster Ashtray Set. Holder is 4.5" tall x 5.25" wide and each square is 2.55" wide with rose design. A cobalt set was also made, and I am on the hunt for it. No, I do not smoke.

Pictured above is the Ming Amber 5 1/2" #950 Cornucopia Candlestick set. Amber Ming pieces are scarce. The Fenton Art Glass 1907 - 1937 book states the only other piece listed in amber is the Decanter #1934 with stopper.

GALA is still set to be held September 24 - 27. Planning is full steam ahead. I have booked my room and if you are planning on selling from your room contact Jason. Always check our website FentonfindersKC.net for updates.

Hope to see you in September!

Happy Hunting

Connie

Thank you, Connie

Many have already made their reservations at the hotel and contacted Jason requesting a room on the second floor where he tries to assign the rooms to people selling. Sometimes we need to use the third floor as well but isn't that a nice problem to have. Please keep in mind that your reservations can be cancel at no cost to you if something happens as long as you cancel in a timely manner. That would be 48 hours before the time of your scheduled stay. We ask that you contact Jason if possible before canceling your room so if he has someone who wants a room but cannot get one, he can get your room reassigned to them. We also want to let everyone know that while we are planning the Gala and at this time everything is going as planned we are aware that things could change because of the virus and if that happens and we have to shut the Gala down any payments that you sent in for registration, banquets and luncheon will be refunded so you will not have to worry about that either. Meanwhile as Connie has said we are making more plans and our committee continues to meet.



Finds from the Road

Always Follow Your Little Voice

By Anne Blackmore

We recently had the unthinkable happen to us. We had traveled quite a distance to go to an antiques flea market, and poor Max got some kind of bug making him sick enough he could not attend. Having been to the doctor the previous day, he was okay to be left alone to rest, and absolutely insisted I go without him. "It's why we're *here*," he said, "you have to go." So, I went to the big flea market on my own, which was just wrong on so many levels.

There were lots of interesting things to look at, and I bought a few small things. Max received a couple of texts asking for advice on a few items. It was really difficult to do all that shopping without having him to bounce ideas around with.

When I got to a booth where Max had previously made a large purchase, the vendors asked where he was and expressed regret over his illness. These two sellers had an amazing space and it took me a long time to work my way through it. I got to a table full of small items laid out in auction flat-type low boxes. In one flat was a beautiful blue tumbler with a fairly simple, but naggingly familiar design. I kept staring at it until it dawned on me; it was Fenton's Plymouth pattern.

But this tumbler was also quite different. It was a strange blue - bright, very cheerful. Not the deep Royal Blue one would expect in the mid-1930s after the repeal of Prohibition in December 1933. The other very unusual feature of this tumbler is the bottom half is satinized. In fact, these two features made me stop and re-evaluate if it even was Fenton. I decided to go ahead and make the purchase.

After doing a little research, I found the satinized Plymouth tumbler in *Early Fenton Rarities 1907-1938*, by Thomas K. Smith. A longtime collector and dealer shared with us that he knew the Fenton factory had produced one turn (one group of workers for four hours) of satinized Plymouth ware for an outside buyer. Several pieces in the Plymouth line were produced in this single turn, including Pilsners, Wines, Whiskeys, and this tumbler. All were made in the same blue, which I have concluded is Celeste Blue, and all were satinized from the center down. He did not know who the outside buyer was. He did know these pieces sell exceptionally well when they are offered at auction.

Needless to say, I was very glad to have listened to my little voice when it said to buy the tumbler! The rest of the day brought many other treasures, and Max was very pleased with my finds when I got back to the hotel. The other good news was, he was truly feeling better by Saturday morning, and we were able to do some junkin' together, including going back to the big market toward the end of the day!

Happy hunting, dear friends! And listen to your little voice when it gives you that good whisper!

Thank you, Anne. We hope that Max continues to do well.

Please refer to page one for the pictures of two Rosaline ginger jars. As a few of our members know I really like ginger jars and have been able to collect a few. One of the first ginger jars that I purchased was the jar on the left in the picture. It was found in Fenton's Special Room in 1992. I was very excited about it and found out that it was created by Dave Rawson. Dave worked on many of the sandcarved pieces that Fenton produced in the 1990's so I was very glad to have what could be a one of a kind ginger jar. Not long ago, just before the virus hit there was an auction that featured many wonderful pieces of Fenton including the ginger jar that appears on the right in the picture. Yes, it was a must have, and I was delighted to get it home where on the inside there was a tag that dated the piece, 1992. My guess is it also came from Fenton's Special Room in 1992. Both pieces appear to be samples made from the 1992 Connoisseur vase, the #1684 Twining Floral. Both have very little lip on the opening to hold the lid securely. Like many collectors I have place a base and a ginger jar lid on my #1684 Twining Floral vase to make it into a ginger jar, it just looks right. Dave Rawson also added the base and lid to the two jars pictured on page one. Both the base and the lid of the ginger jars were sand blasted but only the one on the right has a design on both the lid and base. Both are beautiful and well done. I do like the extra work on the base and lid even if it is hard to see on the base when the ginger jar sits on it. One question that I have on both pieces is why the bases do not fit the jar. Both are bigger than they should be, and the jars slide around on the base. Fenton did have a base that would be a perfect fit for the jars or vases. Perhaps because they were only samples instead of being made to go into their line, they used what was on hand instead of making a base that fits. The only question that remains is how many more of these pieces were made and in how many different designs?

Jackie Oglesby

I cannot believe it is already time for us to start organizing the big display for this years' Gala! 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.

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	Opulent 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 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. There will probably be a few duplicates. After I review the submissions, I will get back with the members that submitted a duplicate, so they do not have to pack it.

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

Dan Madura
Big Display Coordinator

Thank you, Dan. For everyone out there with glass to display please let Dan know what you have, and he will let you know if your pieces will be in the display. Since Dan is working, he may not get with you as soon as you get the information to him, but he will do it as soon as he can. Thank you all for your help with this. The big display is wonderful and for those who are thinking about doing a small display table, please do. If you are unsure of what to put on your table just look at the list of our big displays.

Your small table display could be a wonderful extension of the many big displays we have done in the last twenty years.

It is that time again, we hope that there will be a meeting in July and that we will see a large group of people who have missed all of the fun that we have at the meetings. Until then take care and keep hunting for that one piece of Fenton that you just cannot live without!

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary