

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The next meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be NOVEMBER 14th, 2020 at the Sterling Full Gospel Church located at 3007 S. Sterling Ave., Independence, MO. The meeting will start at 7:00PM. Masks will be mandatory so that all our members can be safe and protected. The Church is large enough that it is easy to keep socially distance so please come and enjoy a somewhat normal social gathering of friends and Fenton collectors.

And now a word from our vice-president, Connie Duncan



It is getting that fall chill in the air. I want to thank Craig for finding us a meeting place for October. It was really nice to see our fellow Fenton collectors again and share our finds.

There have been some really nice Fenton auctions to attend in the area. Most of the malls are open and estate sales and garage sales have started springing up.

Congratulations are in order to our new president Dan and returning treasurer Janet. Hopefully, we will be able to have regular monthly meetings next year and put 2020 behind.

Soon it will be the holiday season. Our November meeting will focus on Christmas items. Fenton manufactured several items related to Christmas. I was looking through flyers published by Fenton with Christmas items and I was amazed at the amount of different styles and decoration. You have trees, Santa's, bells, angels, snow men and women and the list goes on.

I did notice that there was more than one nativity set made. One was Christmas Star in serene Crystal and was introduced in 2001. Another set was made in 1997 and additions were added to this set. There was a 6-piece set made in Cobalt blue iridized satin glass for QVC. Another set was designed in 2008.

So, with everything that I have seen a Fenton collector should not have a hard time decorating with Fenton for the season.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a very happy, safe, and blessed holiday season. This is my last newsletter for 2020 and I will be back with you in 2021. As always Happy Hunting.

Thank you, Connie

We want to congratulate Dan Madura, our new president starting January 1st, 2021 and Janet Wilke, our returning treasurer. It takes a lot of work and dedication to be an officer of a club like ours and it can be a challenge to get qualified people interested in doing that work. Mostly, as collectors we just want to hunt down that piece of Fenton that we are looking for and brag to our fellow collectors about our finds. We are incredibly lucky to have two very highly qualified people who are willing and more than able to do the work we need done. Thank you both for stepping up to do difficult jobs.

Thank you, Jason for all the hard work that you have put in as president of our club for the past years. We know that it was sometimes very stressful as well as frustrating trying to get the herd of cats that we sometimes resemble in regular meetings and in Gala meetings to all go in one direction at the same time but you did it well. We also want to thank your wife, Amanda, for all that she has contributed to the club in support of your position as president and in support of the club, she is always ready to give more than is asked. There are two meetings left to get through this year and then you will be able to relax in our meetings and enjoy fully everything that is going on without worrying about what needs to be done.

We had some wonderful pandemic finds brought to the meeting in October. While it was wonderful seeing all of our members again after such a long time it was difficult for us to take our eyes off the beautiful Mandarin Red Ginger Jar as seen in the picture on page one, that one member brought in. What a wonderful find, we had never seen one with the coveted gold paint decoration as seen pictured in quite a few books on Fenton Rarities but never in real life. Our member admitted that he had to pay a high price for it, \$5.00 at a thrift store. Why can't we ever find anything like this in a thrift store? He did have to pay extra to get a base and top for it. Somehow, we still think he got the bargain of the meeting. We also had another member bring in his find from an antique store, pictures on page four. It is a #0001HF Hyacinth Feather Vase from the Barber Collection in 1975. He also had to pay a large amount for it, \$50.00, this member has not been collecting Fenton for a long time so was unsure if the piece was Fenton even though it had the original Fenton label on the side and Delmer Stowasser's initial's etched on the bottom. We all assured him that he did great. These were only two of the many wonderful pieces of glass brought in for our enjoyment. They stand out because of the wonderful bargains that these Fenton hunters found. These successful hunters gave us more reasons to go out there and hunt for more of those bargain treasures. For more pictures of the wonderful glass that was brought in please check out the pictures on pages four and five.

There was some discussion at the meeting on what we would do about the Christmas dinner this year. It was decided that we would still celebrate the season together as we normally as we can do but not have a meal. There will be some treats and drinks provided but we will not have a meal. Denise Adams and Dan Madura who are in charge of the Christmas Party request that anyone who wishes to contribute a door prize for the party to bring it in to the November meeting, wrapped or not as you choose, so that they can get everything ready for the party. These door prizes can be a wonderful piece of Fenton, or not, a Christmas theme itemed or anything that you would like to contribute. We have already secured permission from the Sterling Full Gospel Church to have the party there. There will be dirty bingo and lots of fun and companionship for all who come. More information will be in our next newsletter.

We also spent some time talking about the club election at our meeting. We have always had our vote at the November meeting, this year we did not. Jason had a zoom meeting in September with many members and they voted to change the election this year so that ballots would have to be in by October 31st, both electronic and mail in and that there would not be a vote taken in person at the November meeting as we did not know at

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Barber Hyacinth Vase, a wonderful find

Persian Pearl Guest Set with #59 cologne



So many wonderful pandemic finds



Without a doubt we will have more to share in the November meeting!

that time if we would be able to meet. It was decided to proceed with the election as it was voted on in the September zoom meeting as we were still unsure if we would be able to use the Church again in November or if the rules would change again because of COVID-19 and we would not be able to meet.



Finds from the Road

Listening to Our Little Voices Pays Off

By Anne Blackmore

Living in Indiana, we are very fortunate to be relatively close to lots of places. Like the signs say, we are definitely in the Crossroads of America.

On a recent trip to southeast Ohio, we were approaching the exit for a mall we rarely stop at. This large antique mall used to be an amazing place in its glory days, but sadly, those days are pretty well gone. Knowing we had our day fairly well laid out, I tried to ignore the little voice that kept whispering we needed to stop at this now rather run-down shop.

Then Max asked if I'd like to stop and just take a quick run through the place. Nothing serious, just more of a chance to stretch our legs. I laughed at his question, his eyebrows went up, and I explained what I had *just* been thinking. We figured if we were both thinking about stopping there after having no plans to do so, we'd better pull off the highway and make time. Guess we antique folk are almost as superstitious as baseball players!

Once inside, we began walking the aisles. Nothing really even slowed us down for the first half of the mall. Heavy sighs all around. Perhaps this was a mistake. Then, about halfway through, we found the reason why we pulled off the highway.

It was a Fenton hurricane lamp with the finger loop base. Certainly not a big deal, right? They were produced in milk glass, peach blow, black rose, the

swirled feather colors, and slightly fancier versions in silver crest and silver turquoise.

But what about French Opalescent? We have been told the French Opal chimneys were used in some lamp fixtures, and we found documentation of this in *Fenton Art Glass 1907-1939* by Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer. But no one we spoke with in person, or in the couple of internet groups we've shared the lamp with, has ever seen the French Opal hurricane lamp base with the finger loop. It is absolutely beautiful in its elegant simplicity. When paired with the opalized chimney, it is a stunning combination! And here it was, in a run-down antique mall we had not even planned to stop at that day.

Just another case of needing to listen to your little voice!

Happy hunting, dear friends! Have a very Happy Thanksgiving. Stay safe.

What a wonderful find. Thank you, Anne. We now have something else to search for that will be extremely hard to find.

Our November meeting will feature Fall and Christmas glass and be a group program as Connie already mentioned. Most of us should have some examples of all this type of Fenton Glass. Don't forget to bring in some glass for show and tell, we know that the examples we saw in the last meeting were not all the glass that was located during the time we could not meet. Until we meet again stay safe and enjoy the holidays.

Just a quick reminder, it is time to renew your membership if you have not already done so. Please send a check or money order (no cash or credit cards) for \$7.50 for a family membership or \$5.00 for an individual membership to:

Janet Wilke Treasurer

Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City

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Jackie Oglesby

Secretary

