

## FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

Sadly, at this time we need to admit that it does not look like we will be able to meet again this year. It appears that the room at the Kansas City MO police department will not be available for our use again until the number of infections is greatly reduced and/or there is a safe vaccine available. If this changes we will of course let you know as soon as possible. Like many of you we want to get out and about doing the things we love with the people we love and that includes sharing our love of Fenton glass.



Now a word from our Vice-President, Connie Duncan

Since we will not be able to hold a physical Fenton meeting here in the metro area for election of officers this year this is the action we are planning to take.

The offices of President and Treasurer are up for re-election this year. We are accepting self-nominations for these two positions up until September 25th. Please send your self-nomination to Janet Wilke at the below address or via email to [kenwilke@cox.net](mailto:kenwilke@cox.net) and Jackie Oglesby at [stogles@yahoo.com](mailto:stogles@yahoo.com) On that date nominations for both offices will cease. Janet will need the self-nominations for official notification to the club that you are running and for which position and Jackie needs the information to publish in the newsletter.

Ballots will be in the October newsletter and must be returned by October 31, 2020 by end of day to Janet Wilke's address listed below. Voting can also be done by email to [jherm007@aol.com](mailto:jherm007@aol.com) and [Fenton123@aol.com](mailto:Fenton123@aol.com) by the end of day on October 31, 2020. To verify each email vote, the email votes must be sent to both Jason Herman and Connie Duncan. Any vote not sent to both Jason and Connie will not be counted. More information on what will be needed on the e-ballots as well as mail in ballots will be in the October newsletter.

Announcement of the elections will be listed in the November newsletter.

Mail Your Self-Nomination to (Ballots will be sent to Janet's address only)

Janet Wilke

PO Box 67061

Topeka, KS. 66667

Jackie Oglesby

10903 Elmwood Dr

Kansas City MO 64137

More instructions will follow in the October newsletter, rules must be followed in order for your vote to be counted but the main thing now is for our members who would like to step up and put their name on the ballot to do so. In order to

qualify to run you must be a member in good standing, your dues up to date and since you are running for an office that will start in 2021 your dues should be up to date for 2021 and because in normal times we meet 10 times a year and that includes one meeting for the Christmas party you must be able to attend most if not all of these meetings as well as the Gala. All board members are also on the Gala committee so all applicants must be willing to serve on the Gala committee as well as make board meetings. Board and Gala meetings are not scheduled but occur when needed. This has been a difficult and strange year for us, we cannot really nominate anyone for office because it would be very difficult to contact someone and verify that they are willing to serve or not and by the time all that is done it may be time to have the election.

If you would like to serve as President or Treasurer send a brief biography telling club members about yourself and what you feel you could bring to the office of President or Treasurer to improve our club. A small picture to be posted in the newsletter would also be helpful. The information will be shared in the October newsletter. We look forward to new and exciting ideas to make Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City a more enjoyable and informative club. Thank you.

Thank you, Connie



And now a word from the president of our club, Jason Herman

Jason Herman is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City

Time: Sep 12, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83549467132?pwd=dIFsd0NoYmhpc1NJY3JhOVRGVXI4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 835 4946 7132

Passcode: 4E0GPS

Thank you, Jason

This is, as stated a difficult process with board members trying as hard as possible to confirm to our bylaws while trying to hold our normal elections. The board has been doing a lot of work with emails shooting back and forth to decide the best and safest way of doing that. Jason is very concern that everyone knows what we are doing and wants everyone to

have a chance to voice any concerns that they have. Please join us on zoom if you can on September 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us and we will hope to get approval of the changes that we are making for this year's vote. As stated, we are following our bylaws as much as possible so that elections can take place as they would normally. Thank you for joining us on Zoom and we hope that you approve of the plans that we have made.

Bernie Johnston has just contacted us to let us know that everyone who assigned glass for the 2020 Gala auction has confirmed that they will keep their glass in the auction for 2021 so we will all have a chance to purchase this very nice Fenton glass in September of 2021. And sadly, everyone else will have to wait till 2022 to put their glass in the auction. If anyone changes their mind for whatever reason we will let you know that there is an opening for more glass.

The curse of Collecting with friends and family

Many years ago, my mother, my younger sister and I would spend many enjoyable hours on the weekends searching antique stores for things that we just had to have. My mother and sister were collecting baskets, but this is something that I did not want to do so for the most part I was just along for the joy of companionship and anything else that appealed to me. We had visited one store many times and there was one basket that was completely ignored by my mother and sister, many times, after several visits it was just more than I could stand and I purchased the basket, it was a crystal basket made by Cambridge as I later found out. This basket has long ago passed into other hands, but the genie was out of the bottle and I had started collecting glass baskets. Oh, woe is me. They take up too much space, they are so very easy to break and there are so many different ones. It would seem that the problem would get worse when we started to collect Fenton, and all of us did buy baskets however for me there were so many different things that called to me and the glass that was made in the 1920's and 30's appealed to me more than anything else. While there were many baskets produced at that time it does not compare to the number and variety of the baskets made in later years so my basket collection remained static while I collected glass of the 1920's and 30's. But alas that was not to stay the same and the more coin dot glassware I see the more that the pattern began to appeal to me, and pieces of coin dot began to appear in my collection. Could baskets be far behind? Without question these baskets are elegant and can be somewhat difficult to find, especially the large #1353 12" basket. Fenton also made a #1924 5" basket, a #1435 5" hat basket, a

#1437 7" basket, #1925 6" basket a #203 7" basket and a #1522 10" basket. All of these baskets were made in French Opalescent, Cranberry Opalescent and Blue Opalescent. Some of them were made in Topaz Opalescent and Lime Green Opalescent and Honeysuckle Opalescent (produced only two years). Coin dot was introduced in 1947 by Fenton and most of the colors were discontinued in 1954. Cranberry Opalescent continued in production until 1964.



#1353 12" Blue Opalescent basket



#1925 6" basket (top row) #1430 10" basket bottom row, Blue, French, & Cranberry Opalescent

These baskets are elegant, and they take up too much space in my collection and they are so very breakable. But I love them, how about you?

Jackie Oglesby



## Finds from the Road

### That Vase Weighs *HOW* Much?

By Anne Blackmore

We were scheduled to speak to the Fenton Finders of the Greater Twin Cities (in Minneapolis, Minn.) in June of this year, but because of the virus, the club was unable to meet. So, our friends who are members of the club, invited us to come to Minnesota anyway, just for a visit. It was glorious to spend time with friends, BBQ together, sit outside around a fire in the evenings, and go antiquing together.

We drove about an hour north from their town to the suburbs of Minneapolis. The first town had a shop where we had seen a piece we deeply regretted not purchasing the last time we were there. It was a large Northwood covered urn in custard, that had been severely damaged, glued back together and priced at \$5.00. It would have been a great example to take on the road, because if it had gotten broken it would not have mattered much. First rule of antiques? Buy it when you see it - it was long gone.

The next town has a shop we just love. It seems we always find neat things there. This time was no different. One booth has amazing Fenton! I found a beautiful lamp there with exquisite artwork, signed by Fenton artist JK Spindler, and figured we had our treasure for the day.

Another few booths down from the Fenton space, Max calls me over to where he is bent down looking at the very bottom of a cabinet. There was an enormous, thick, heavy-looking vase with elongated flowers on it. The flowers looked really familiar, and when Max asked me directly if I recognized them, it hit me, Charles Lotton Studios. He was certain it was their work as well, and we had a lady help us get it out of the cabinet.

Turning the vase over, it was signed and dated. We could make out the 1997, and Max and I both thought the last name was "Lotton", but neither of us could read the first name. It could have been either Daniel or John. We examined it carefully for any possible damage, because the price on the tag did not begin to reflect the value of the piece. It was in pristine condition.

So, what is Lotton Art Glass? Charles Lotton developed an interest in making his own glass in 1970 when touring a glass factory. He felt struck with the feeling that making glass was what he wanted to do with his life and so he returned to Illinois and began to teach himself glass making techniques using old melted down soda bottles.

He was producing glass professionally, full-time by 1973. He developed his own formulas for both crystal and colored glass so the colors and the crystal will all have the same cooling coefficient (all the glass cools at the same rate). His work quickly gained critical acclaim, and found its way into major galleries and museums like the Art Institute of Chicago, the Corning Museum of Glass, and the Smithsonian Institution. Three of Charles' sons followed him into glass work, David, Daniel, and John, and all have earned high praise in the art world.

Once we got this stunning, yet enormous, vase home, we read through our book on Lotton Art Glass again, and were able to determine it was likely John Lotton who created this masterpiece. We have a small collection of Lotton Art Glass at home, all created by Charles Lotton. It is a delight to have this massive piece join the others from this family of glass artists.

The moral of the story? Always eat your Wheaties when heading out antiquing... this vase is nearly 17 inches tall and weighs in at 37 pounds.

Happy hunting, dear friends! Stay safe.

Thank you, Anne.

As already mentioned, we will not meet in September except by Zoom.

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Time: Sep 12, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83549467132?pwd=dIFsd0NoYmhpc1NJY3JhOVRGVXI4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 835 4946 7132

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Since this will be a business meeting concerning the steps that we are hoping to take to ensure our election is as open to all and as fair as possible it is important that everyone who can join us. We know that it is not easy, but it is important. Thank you so much, everyone who takes the time and makes the effort to join us on Zoom, Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

Don't forget to renew your membership. Renewal of dues for all members will be October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, unless you have paid in advance, we do have several members who are paid up two or even three years in the future. If you have not done this please send your check for family membership, \$7.50 or individual membership for \$5.00.

Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City

Janet Wilke  
PO Box 67061  
Topeka. KS. 66667

Make your check payable to FFOGKC

Thank you

Until then have a wonderful time collecting that wonderful piece of Fenton and remember to hoard it until we can meet again and brag about all the glass that we have found over the summer, despite the pandemic. Stay safe and happy.

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary

