

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be **SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH, 2011** at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

Joy Livengood's program on Peach Crest was fantastic. Among all the beautiful examples of Peach Crest were 3 lamps with only one, a hobnail Peach Crest student lamp, was produced by Fenton. The other two were created by Melvin Lampton. He used Fenton's Peach Crest glass to create two original lamps, a miniature and a banquet lamp, that Joy is very proud to show off. She had a small bowl; I believe it was the #7227 shape bowl that had one could say a swirl of color at the top Inside of the bowl and then milk glass in the bottom. We all were thinking it was a lunch box special that someone had taken home before it could be destroyed as a second. It is a really neat little bowl. While doing a little research on something else I found a basket on page 104 of Fenton Art Glass Patterns 1939 - 1980 by Margaret & Ken Whitmyer that looked a lot like the bowl. They

listed it as a Rose Swirl 7" basket with a Silver Crest. They could not determine the value. The basket is listed under unusual crests, sample items, or special order pieces. They did not specify which one the basket was so maybe Joy has one of these special pieces or a one of a kind sample item in her collection. In any case as you can tell from the pictures we got to see some very special and beautiful glass. What a wonderful program.

The meeting was a little quiet with little new news to share. Joy reported that we already had quite a few rooms spoken for at the Embassy Suites so be sure to get your room as soon as you can. The number is 816-891-7788. The date is September 15th, 16th, and 17th. Ask for the Gala rate.

It seems that the weather cannot decide if we are ready for summer to begin or for winter to stay we get a few days of very nice weather and then we get cold weather again. It would be nice to have a full week of weather that we can enjoy. With it turning warm and then cold again it is difficult to realize that the season of glass conventions are just around the corner. It is time to decide just what kind of small table display you are going to set up, get the glass out and dust it off (in my case give it a good cleaning) and set up a practice table to see how to best display your glass, make labels, etc. etc. and etc. That is just the beginning. For our convention it is easy for most of the people who display their glass as they just leave their glass packed up from the national convention and bring their glass with them to our convention. That really works great for our members who cannot make it to the national convention. It allows us to see a little bit of the bigger conventions while we stay at home.

Speaking of the national conventions have you made reservations for one or both of the national Fenton conventions? It seems we need to enjoy the national conventions while we can still enjoy them with Fenton. Connie Duncan let us know that Fenton has laid off a lot of their older and more experienced glass workers and has shut down for six weeks. With the price of gas going up so high it is difficult to

see how they can continue to produce glass for us. I guess we must just hope for another miracle.

One of the first big glass conventions that will take place is HOACGA in Kansas City. Bob Grissom talked a little bit about this huge convention that will be coming up the end of April. They will have a large display of Peach Opalescent Carnival glass that everyone can enjoy plus lots of glass for sale and a large carnival glass auction. They are offering a Key Lime Green Carnival Glass Dancing Ladies Vase in different treatments as a souvenir piece. I pulled some information directly off their web site so everyone can have the basic information. For more information, schedules, registration forms, and information about their club just enter HOCGA and their web site will come up with all sorts of useful information.

2011 HOACGA Convention

The 2011 Heart of America Carnival Glass Association (HOACGA) Convention will be April 27-May 1, 2011 at the Embassy Suites Airport Hotel, Kansas City, MO (five minutes from the Kansas City International Airport) 816-891-7788. All of the Hotel rooms are a two room suite with a window for viewing your display of glass for sale. The convention auction will feature the collection of Dorothy and Emmett Morgan of Texas.

We also spent some time at the meeting talking about Russ McCall's auction that is coming up on April 30th. Nick Duncan had done some research and the glass belongs to a long time member of FAGCA. It seems that they are selling the last of their collection. We will all face that sad day someday, unless we get lucky and our kids have to do it for us in an estate sale. (Does that sound like a plan?)

In any case, for more information about this auction please go on Russ McCall's website www.mccallauction.com/auctions/1141 He has all the glass for sale pictured there and you can see if there is anything that you are interested in. They do have a lot of very nice

glass. Some old, some newer, and some middle age, something for everyone. It is worth your time.

Sandra Wheeler volunteered to do our program for April. It will be on Diamond Optic glass. This is a favorite of many Fenton collectors. Fenton first produced Diamond Optic in 1927. While they discontinued most pieces by 1931 they did continue to produce it in some pieces such as jade green and baskets until they were also discontinued. In 1934 they had Ruby tumblers and in 1936 crystal bowls were listed in Diamond Optic. They used the Diamond Optic treatment in iridescent, opaque and transparent colors, black, jade, green, rose, aqua, royal blue, ruby, orchid, tangerine, crystal and moonstone. They also used the Diamond Optic treatment on stretch glass in these same colors.

Fenton also decorated some of their Diamond Optic pieces with mostly floral designs cut into the glass. This was very attractive. You can find the Diamond Optic treatment in almost every kind of glass ware that Fenton produced vases, baskets, bowls, glasses, ice pails, lamps, etc. etc. While this treatment disappeared in the late 1930's, in 1942 Fenton reintroduced Diamond Optic into its product line with its new mold-blown cased Mulberry color. They discontinued this color toward the end of 1942 and it did not appear again until 1989. While Fenton discontinued Mulberry they continued to use the Diamond Optic treatment in Ruby Overlay until it was discontinued in 1959.

In 1952 Fenton started using the Diamond Optic treatment on Opalescent colors. They called the glossy pieces Diamond Optic (of course) while the satin pieces were called Diamond Satin. Colors included Amber Frost, Blue Opalescent, Cranberry, and Green Frost.

Fenton has continued to produce Diamond Optic off and on until the present. Diamond Optic has proven to be a favorite among Fenton collectors since it was first introduced. For more information check out Margaret and Kenn Whitmyer's books on Fenton Art Glass, 1907 -

1939 and 1939 - 1980. Please try to make it to this meeting so you can enjoy seeing this wonderful glass and let Sandy know her efforts on our behalf are appreciated.

Please update your roster with the correct phone # for Sarah Smith, ###-###-#### and the correct email address for Sandy Wheeler, #####@embargmail.com. Also please welcome new members Scott & Kathleen Sponsler and update the roster with their information. **Identifying information intentionally omitted from the internet version.**

Please take time to care for yourself and your love ones. Plan on attending our April meeting, with luck it will be on a weekend that spring will be with us and we can enjoy the weather as well as the glass. Please bring your glass for show and tell as well. The program will be great.

Jackie Oglesby

Secretary www.fentonfinderskc.net