

## FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th, Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M.

Welcome to a new year of collecting Fenton with FFOGKC. We start the New Year with some good news. Bev Spencer is home and doing very well after spending time in the hospital and rehab. She was injured in a fall but being the very strong and very determined person that she has overcome these problems. Please let her know how much we admire her for overcoming all that she has.

As you can see we had some very happy people at the December meeting at Ryan's. We had a lot of fun playing dirty bingo as well as eating way to much food. At the end of the games after the winners opened the boxes Nick Duncan announced that the piece of broken Fenton had been lost and the club had to use as the main prizes, 3 good pieces of Fenton instead of

2. We know he was happy about it as he was one of the 3 winners. The other two, Julia Luke and Susan Johnston seemed to be very happy with their prizes as well.

As we always do, we will start the New Year with a new roster. Please check your information to confirm your information is correct. If it needs to be updated please contact Janet Wilke or me and it will be done. Our contact information is in the roster. For everyone who has decided not to renew this will be your last newsletter. We are sorry that we were not able to fulfill your expectations but we thank you for your time and interest in our club.

Our program for our next meeting will be Hanging Hearts. It will be a group program. The first Hanging Hearts that Fenton produced was in 1925 when Fenton hired a shop of European glassworkers to work for them. They had worked for other American glass companies including Durand and Imperial before they worked for Fenton. They only worked for Fenton for about a year - Fenton found that the market for this beautiful glassware was not large and they were let go. However, discerning collectors love this wonderful glass and today each piece demands a large price. If you have not seen this glass, check out *The First Twenty Five Years* by William Heacock.

In the 1970s Fenton brought in Robert Barber, where he was allowed a free hand to design a collection of offhand glass now known as the Barber collection. Like the previous European off hand glass collection it did not sell well and after a few years he left Fenton to work for Pilgrim Glass. Like the glass made by the European glassworkers, the price of these pieces of glass keeps getting higher and higher. Dave Fetty, one of the two Fenton glassworkers that worked closely with Robert Barber, has continued to produce this offhand glass for Fenton and it has shown a remarkable ability to hold or increase its value.

Please join us for what should be an enjoyable and educational program. In the meantime please be careful in the cold and snowy weather. Keep warm and drive carefully. We will see you on the 12th. Jackie Oglesby, Secretary