

FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

MAY 2007 NEWSLETTER



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday June 9th, 2007 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Street, Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

I am happy to inform you Sara Speaight is at home after surgery for cancer. She is doing well but has a long way to go. Please let her know of your prayers and well wishes.

There was a very nice turn out for our Mandarin and Venetian Red program. After much discussion it was decided to use the definition of the glass that Frank Fenton provided to a member. Venetian Red is darker red than Mandarin and has none of the swirl of almost yellow color that Mandarin does. So, if your glass is a very dark red with no swirl of a lighter color, what you have is Venetian and if it is a lighter red with a swirl of a different color, what you have is Mandarin. Is that clear?

There was a nice display of this wonderful glass with lots of Mandarin and some pieces of Venetian. It was decided that of the three ginger jars that were on display that one of them was Venetian Red even though it sold and bought as Mandarin. A #184 12" was also Venetian. There were some pieces that came under discussion such as the Dancing Ladies Fan Vase – it was very dark but had a very definite swirl of yellow color in the base. We had examples of candlesticks, all different sizes of bowls, three different open edge basket weave bowls, big cookies baskets and macaroon jars and peacock vases as well as Northwood's version of Mandarin Red. If someone can come up with a better was

of telling these two wonderful but confusing examples of early Fenton Art glass apart, please let us know.

There were some interesting pieces of glass in our show and tell segment as well. There was a pair of San Toy cornucopia candlesticks and large fan vase from 1936. A pair of cut cranberry vases, most likely Bohemian, very nice. A L.G. Wright peach blow cruet, Imperial stretch glass cake plate, a large brown vase with a Mary Gregory style painting, most likely European, a large blue vase with milk glass edge from the 1980's. a Jade Green footed Elizabeth Sherbet vase with black bowl and the new Fenton Green Carnival Dancing Lady Covered Jar.

There has been discussion on whether or not to increase the dues for membership due to the increase in cost of stamps as well as the expense of printing the newsletter and putting pictures on it. The cost far exceeds the amount we get in dues. It was decided that the Gala produces enough income to cover the cost of the newsletter so there will be no increase in dues at this time but we will revisit the matter in the future if the expense increases more that the Gala can or should carry.

On the Gala front it has been determined that the price of the 8" Dancing Lady Fan Vase shall be \$70.00 for the Ruby and \$75.00 for the Red Carnival Dancing Lady Fan Vase plus \$10.00 shipping and insurance. Our members will get first chance to buy these vases but there will be a limit of one each per household. Most of you should have already received the early registration form so please take advantage of it if you think that you want to order one or both of these beautiful vases. Of course, while you are ordering your vases, please send in your registration for the Gala. We are planning on having a lot of fun again this year and need everyone's support to have the most fun at the Gala. If you attend the Gala, you get to save the \$10.00 shipping fee. Remember that we only have 75 of each fan vase so they are very limited and you will need to order early to be sure you get one.

It is not too early to be thinking about what you want to bring to the hospitality room. We need all the home made goodies that you can bring. I always have a lot of goodies from the store but can use a lot more. There will be a barbeque dinner again this year so I hope that everyone enjoys it. But, we always need the little extras that make it better. And, if you are thinking about selling some of your glass, the Gala is a good place to sell it. either in a room at the Embassy Suites or in the consignment auction. Steve Duncan is still accepting glass for the consignment auction so get your list to him as soon as possible as he needs to get everything listed as soon as possible.

It is also not too early to be thinking about your display tables. Richard Speaight is getting the big display together for us but the little tables that each of us bring add extra excitement to the Gala or the National Convention. If you are taking glass to West Virginia, please think about keeping it packed up to bring to K.C. so that you can bring the same excitement to us. It is not very easy to keep thinking up new ways to display your glass. We all limited collections – well at least most of us don't have an unlimited amount of glass to bring and display. However, we all need to keep in mind that

sometimes the most interesting and informative displays are the most simple, with glass that doesn't have to be worth thousands of dollars. I love a display of dancing ladies but wasn't the display of Christmas Trees that we had last year wonderful? The first time I saw or heard about the Kaleidoscope plates was a table set up by a local member. It was wonderful as well as being full of information. In the end that is what is important – the information that you share with others about your collection.

For our program on June 9th we are going to have something special. It will be a favorite piece of Fenton program. For this we are asking everyone to bring 2 or 3 or maybe even 4 of their favorite pieces of Fenton Art Glass and then tell us what these pieces are and why they are special to them. Is it the first piece of Fenton that you collected? Was it a gift from a loved one? Do you love it because it reminds you of a special time with friends or family? Was it a piece that took you years to find and then you found it your local antique store? It might be difficult for you to pick your favorite pieces. I know it will be for me, because it changes almost daily.

There is a new favorite sitting on my mantle right now. I have been collecting crystal San Toy for years and while the information that Fenton made San Toy in Rose and Green as well as crystal was available, it was not until a Rose San Toy pitcher showed up on eBay that it managed to make its way into my brain. These are very hard pieces to find and while I have never seen a Green San Toy piece, I am now the owner of two Rose pieces. The pitcher (oh wouldn't it be nice to have a tumbler or two to go with it) and now a #184 12" Rose San Toy vase

There is also the first sand carved Ginger Jar that I got from Fenton. It was Rosalene that was found in Fenton's Special Glass Room many years ago. It has remained a favorite since I first saw it. Not only is it a very beautiful and rare example of Fenton, it reminds me of the many trips that I have made with my mother and sister to the National Convention. There is also the #8807FR Daisy Vase with metal lid, a favrene vase made for the 1997 Connoisseur Collection. I originally bought one for myself but when my mother expressed a desire for it, somehow I ended up splitting the cost with my younger sister and we gave it to her, Years later there was another chance to purchase one at an auction and when it got home my husband took it out of my hands and declared that it belonged to him. In fact, he planned to have his ashes put in it when the time came or he might put me in it, he could never make up his mind.

After that, every time there was a piece of Favrene available, it was put in Jim's collection. He was not a glass collector but there were some things that just called to him. Is there something like that in your collection? If so, bring it to our meeting so that you can share it with all of us. At the same time, don't forget to bring your glass for show and tell. It is so much fun to see what other people have found in their travels or shopping on eBay.

Now is the time for more corrections, changes in addresses or additions to our roster. Please everyone, let me know of any mistakes that I make in your names, addresses or

email. As you can tell from the newsletter, I make a lot of mistakes and will be glad to correct them. Please change your roster to include these changes:

NOTE: Member names, addresses and email intentionally left of documents posted on the internet.

We hope that everyone has had a great holiday weekend and spent a lot of time with their loved ones. Hopefully you also got some shopping time in so that you were able to find that special piece of Fenton so that you can bring that piece to our show and tell. Don't forget to bring your favorite pieces of Fenton for our program. Drive safe and be careful, your family needs you and so do we.

/S Jackie Oglesby
Secretary.