

## FENTON FINDERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY



The meeting of the Fenton Finders of Greater Kansas City will be Saturday November 10th, 2007 at the Raytown City Hall, 10000 E. 59th Raytown, Missouri. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

Connie Duncan's surgery went well and she was able to make our meeting in September and the Gala. I am very sorry to report that new members Jane and John Juby lost two family members recently and were unable to attend the Gala because of this. Please send them your well wishes and sympathy. I must also report that Bonnie Bradshaw is ill with pneumonia and Ed Anderson is having problems with his heart. Please let them know that we have them in our prayers and let them know of our concern for their health. Please get well and come back to us.

As you will have noticed our next meeting will be in November instead of October due to the fact that many members felt that everyone would need a little rest after the Gala as well as the fact that Ann Fenton is having George Fenton come to her shop in Republic Mo. This way anyone who would like to get their glass signed by George Fenton and to visit Ann's very nice shop will be able to without having to try to make it back to KC for the meeting.

Please welcome new members and add them to your roster. There will be a new roster coming out in Apr. of 2008 so it will be a few months before you get a new one.

Jennifer Halverson, Sultan Washington 98294

Brent & Sarah Mochel, Overland Park Kansas 66212

Charles & Eleanor Mochel, Overland Park Kansas 66223

Steve & Jana Davee, Broken Arrow Oklahoma 74012

John & Jane Juby, Owasso Oklahoma 74055

Marion Thornton, Collectors Showcase, Snohomish Washington 98290

And for the new members who signed up at the Gala:  
Jeannie Bradford Charles, Gladstone Missouri 64118  
Charles & Sharon Bragg, Lima Ohio 45801  
Andrea Calhoun, Decatur Illinois 62321-9549  
Bill Gillespie, Fort Monmouth North Dakota 07703  
Alan & Marsha Stolzenburg, Lincoln Nebraska 68521  
Gail Fix, Colorado Springs Colorado 80907  
Allyne Kesterson, Newton Kansas 67114  
Jim & Margaret McMillen, Merriam Kansas 66203  
Gene & Mary Ellen Simons, Casey Iowa 50048-8513  
Connie Whitley, Northglenn Colorado 80260-6256

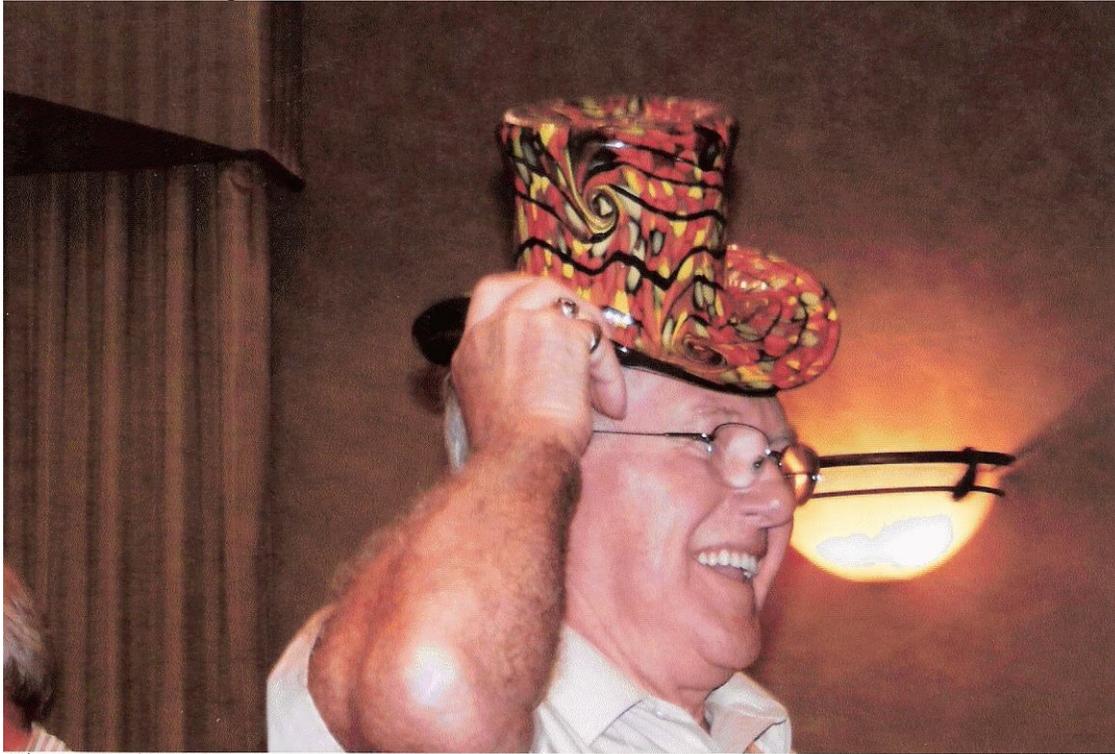
Our meeting in September was a lot of fun with many examples of dolphins. There were 5 pieces of jade green with dolphin handles with no repeats. One of our members presented the information that the dolphin design was a revival of a Roman or Greek design that was popular at that time (1910-1920's). This helps explain where the design came from. It was also explained to some members who could not understand why the dolphin handles did not look like Flipper. There are two kinds of dolphins - one is a mammal - Flipper - and the other is the kind that you order in a restaurant. The latter is the dolphin that was used as the basis for Fenton's (as well as many other glassmakers) glassware. Our program included a not quite lilac color compote (lilac opaL?); 2 Royal Blue diamond optic compotes; ruby compote; 5 different shapes of jade green compotes from the large #1608; 10" deep oval footed bowl to the #1502 oval compote. A small dolphin handled bowl and a #1532 candy jar. We also had the #1608, 10" deep oval bowl in Moonstone and black with silver overlay; a matching black tidbit bowl with silver overlay; 4 pieces of rose diamond optic including two shallow bowls with dolphin feet, a compote, and the large #1502 -A-10" sandwich tray with dolphin handle and etching. There was a "1502 A-10" bowl in Chinese Yellow; a #1502A-10" sandwich tray in ruby -no etching. All of these were made in the 1920's and 1930's

We also had the 3/4 lb. covered candy jar in the Gracious Touch line and 4 variations of the #1535-5 1/4" fan vase with dolphin handles in Rosaline, Velva Rose, and Blue with hand painting, and a blue opal. These were newer as was the green opal compote with hand painting and a Blue Rib Optic basket with a dolphin painted on it (a whimsey from a Gala), and a dolphin shape paperweight. All in all a big turn out for this program, it was a great display with almost no repeats. It's always a joy to see so much glass

Show and tell was also very good with a wide variety of glass. There was the jade green decanter with a black stopper and wine glass. The maker was unknown at the time and later identified at the Gala as New Martinville). A lilac pitcher with black top from the 1930's; a blue overlay amphora vase with hand painted decoration from the 2005 Landmark Collection from QVC; a Cranberry Thumbprint water set from the 1950's; 4 of the new ball nut bowls in blue, marigold, mandarin red, and chameleon green; an aqua crest footed compote; the new Poinsettia cameo vase created by Kelsey Murphy; a large dark blue Imperial candlestick (1950's) made for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. There was a tall ruby crest vase etched with flowers and a cobalt vase with horses etched and painted on it (purchased at the national conventional and produced by a local artist); an indigo blue children's water set made for NFGS 2007, and a Rosaline doll.

Please be sure to remember that there will be NO meeting in October and no newsletter for the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Our program will be on Black and Orange glass as well as a little amber thrown into the mix. We will be having elections for vice-president and secretary so it is important that everyone who can, attends, and remember those who do

not attend may be voted into office before they know what is going on. Please remember our next meeting will be November 10 at 7:00 PM.



What can be said about this years Gaia? Dave Fetty was as wonderful as always. His seminar on making offhand glass was full of humor and information. His wife Ada Kay was able to control him for the most part but how much can she do? They arrived early Thursday and came up to the hospitality room where after having a snack, Dave set off to help the group who was setting up the big display and Ada Kay helped set up the hospitality room. They spent a lot of time not only helping us set up the Gala and entertaining us with jokes and information about glassmaking as well as the latest information about what is going on at Fenton - really not much more than we had already heard, but at least there is some hope that Fenton may be able to survive as a smaller, hopefully, more profitable company. We will have to wait to find out.

They also spent a lot of time socializing and making friends of many of our members and guests. Dave helped Richard give the seminar on his offhand glass Friday night giving us an idea of what it took to make such wonderful glass. The glass was breathtaking with over 200 pieces of Dave Fetty glass on display. Wish that all of you who were not able to attend could see this display - I doubt that anyone will be able to set up such a display again in the near future. This is indeed the glass that will be considered rare and collectible in the future. Thank you everyone for taking the chance to bring this wonderful glass in so that we could all enjoy this unbelievable sight.

Tom Smith brought in some of the most rare and wonderful glass that Fenton had made in the past. He told stories about the glass and the glassmakers that informed and entertained us. One that was most touching concerned Frank Fenton, George Fenton was asked to reveal something about Frank Fenton that no one else knew. The story went that Frank always said that the three most important things in life to him was God, his family, and his business and if you took care of the first two the last one would always take care of itself. We have to thank Tom and the owners of this glass for being willing to share some of the very rare pieces of glass for our education. This glass is something that most of us will never see again except in books.

Tom Smith and Melvin Lampton did the table reviews again. What wonderful displays they were, including almost every piece of Halloween glass that Fenton has made in the last few years; a table set up with sunflowers, no, this was not a group from Kansas but a group of our Minnesota friends. There was a table of Chinese Yellow, and two tables with the hard to find etched glass from the 1920's and 30's. (I believe there was some wheeling and dealing going on between the owners of these two tables in an attempt to get more glass from each other). One of these tables included one piece that had been cut by Frank L. Fenton. There was a table of the beautiful and hard to find cranberry heart optic glass, including the new ruby heart optic vase; a table of beautiful baskets; a table of the many different small pitchers that Fenton has made; a wonderful table full of new and old Periwinkle Blue glass - many very rare, a table of the newest of the rare glass being made by Kelsey Murphy. Also a table of one of a kind pieces and whimsys; a table of the Christmas compotes; a table that featured Minnesota wildlife that was painted or molded into wildlife that could be found in that great state.

There was a table of Roses on Ruby; a table full of the acid etch Wisteria pattern; a table of Asters on Blue Satin glass; a table of Mandarin Red; a wonderful table of the many Tobacco Jars Fenton has made; a table of Charleton glass and last but not least a table with some very rare examples of Barber glass.

For those who keep track of such things we had 131 people attending the Gala officially as well as a unknown number who attended for just a day or so to see the displays or shop rooms. There were 23 new attendees for this Gala and we had 14 new members who joined up at the Gala. There were also 23 states represented. We hope that all who attended the Gala enjoyed it as much as we did and that all the new members enjoy their membership with us.

The Embassy Suites continues to be great place to have the Gala with many people finding it a comfortable and relaxing place to stay. The free breakfast was good as always and there is no need to say anything about happy hour. The service was great and there was always someone there to help you when needed. The club went all out for the hospitably room which I would like to take the time out to thank everyone for. Those special treats that were brought in by our hard working members were enjoyed by all. Everyone found something to munch on more than once.

Friday I was afraid that there had been way too much BBQ ordered and that it would go to waste, however by the time the hospitality room closed up there was only enough beef left over for maybe two sandwiches. Not bad. Almost all the sweets were gone. There were some chips left over (we always get a very great donation of chips from one of our members) as were some crackers and these were donated to a food pantry with the permission of the donors. Thank you everyone for your generous gifts to the hospitality room, whether it was home made goodies or store brought, or a donation of cash to help pay for everything that we serve It would not be the same without all the generous gifts of food and money as well as the work that people do to make them or to help out in the hospitality room. Thank you all.

I will be at the November meeting with some plastic containers and a spoon that was left in the room. If you know that you left something and will be unable to attend the meeting please email me so that we can make some plans to meet and I can get your things to you. Also as has happen in past years I have had some requests for recipes, the raisin cookies as well as the chocolate mint brownies so if those people would email me or mail me the recipe I will include these in a future newsletter. Thank you.

The auction was a lot of fun as always with Eddie Powers, our auctioneer, bringing many laughs to lighten the tension of friends bidding against each other for the joy of paying for

the privilege of taking care of a beautiful piece of glass to hand down to another generation. The star of the show was the jade green turtle with the bubble optic fish bowl. It brought a price of \$2000. The cosigner was needless to say quite please with the result. As with most others I found that I lost money on some of the glass I consigned to the auction but made money on others so I was quite happy with the results. For anyone who wants to see the results of the auction please check out our website at [www.fentonfinderskc.net](http://www.fentonfinderskc.net) There you will also find many pictures of the Gala so that you can enjoy them with us. \*\*\*\*\*Webmaster's Note: Pictures will be added as soon as other members share their pictures. There-----That should get their attention\*\*\*\*\*

The dates for the next Gala have been set for September 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 20<sup>th</sup> 2008 and it will again be at the Embassy Suites. There will be an added expense as the hotel will no longer comp the ballrooms for us so we may have to increase the registration fee. Be sure that it will be held down as much as we can. However, I think that everyone will agree that the expense will be worth it. The contract has nor been signed with the hotel as yet so if you want to book your room for the next Gala you will need to wait until that is done, most likely in January. The rooms go fast so keep an eye on the newsletter for the latest information. Please keep those dates clear so we can see you again and we can have lots of fun.

Now it's time to go. Please remember that there will be NO meeting in October so relax that day. If you get the chance you might want to attend the signing event at Ann Fenton's Fenton Collectible's shop in Republic Mo. There will also be NO newsletter in November so mark your calendar for November 10th and plan on bringing in black and orange glass (include some amber in that) for our program and if you got a treasure or two at the Gala bring it in for show and tell.

Jackie Oglesby Secretary







