

# Historical Glass Museum



## Museum Location:

1157 N. Orange Street  
Redlands, California  
909-798-0868

## Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 9195  
Redlands, CA 92375-2395

## Museum Needs:

- *Front porch stairs  
Need repairs*
- *Museum exterior  
needs painting.*

## Keeping in Touch

The winter months tend to be slow at the Museum, which gives us time to attend to necessary tasks. Our volunteer staff needs time to process donations of glass that we have received over the past year. We clean, identify, sort and either display, store or place in gift shop inventory.

There are a couple of events that we participated in as an organization. These were mentioned in the last newsletter: an Open House at the Museum, the annual Christmas display at the Kimberly Crest Mansion in Redlands, and a seminar presented by our vice president.

As we enter the new year, we have opened a new account for our "Restoration Fund" aimed at making needed repairs on our century-old building. We encourage our friends and members to contribute to this effort.

Last year's major project was to upgrade our electrical system and equip all display cases with LED lighting. The results are simply dazzling – come in and see how the glass sparkles with the new lighting.

## Email Newsletter

This newsletter is being sent to most members via Email. By using Email, the Museum saves quite a bit of money on postage.

In addition, your email newsletter contains color photographs. We don't print hard copy in color, as that increases our cost significantly.

If you have not yet supplied your email address and wish to do so, then please send it, plus your name, to

[Webmaster@historicalglassmuseum.com](mailto:Webmaster@historicalglassmuseum.com).

We will NOT share it with anyone else.



## WE NEED YOU !

Our museum is run by an all volunteer board of directors and volunteer docents.

Currently, our President is the acting Treasurer. We need someone to volunteer for this important position, which would require about 2 hours per week.

We welcome any member who would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors. The Board meets for about two hours on the second Thursday of each month. Some Board members attend via conference call – you don't have to travel to Redlands.

Finally, we are always looking for more volunteer docents. The Museum is only open on weekends and even volunteering for one day a month would be appreciated.

## Advertising Paperweights



## Apple Green EAPG



Last year the Museum received a sizeable donation of apple green EAPG (Early American Pressed Glass). It took a while to identify the manufacturer of each item, and then to arrange it for display to the public. Quite a few different glass companies are represented in the display (above), and it shows well with our new LED lighting. Most of this glass was made in America before 1900, though it looks like it was made yesterday. Visit the Museum and see it.

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# RESTORATION FUND

The Board of Directors has established a Restoration Fund designated to set aside funds for restoration and maintenance of our century-old building. Several expensive maintenance projects must be attended to, including external painting and concrete repairs. While the Museum is beautiful, the years have taken their toll on this historical home.

The Board welcomes cash donations designated for the Restoration Fund. We will report on progress in future newsletters.

Checks should be made out to the Museum, with a note designating the Restoration Fund. Send to:

Historical Glass Museum  
P. O. Box 9195  
Redlands, CA 92375-2395





# Whale Oil Lamps

In 2017 the Museum received a large donation of Whale Oil Lamps. This donation also took a significant amount of time to process, as our reference library didn't have much information on these pieces. The collection is now on display (above) and consists of a full three shelves of these interesting glass items.

Throughout history, man has had the need for light during periods of darkness. For most of history, torches and candles were the solution. In the 1700's it was noted that the burning oil from sperm whales glowed brightly and clearly. The type of lamp in our collection, known as an Argand Lamp, was invented in the 18th century. The lamp consisted of a container for oil, a cylindrical wick to give a bigger surface for a larger flame, and a glass tube chimney around the flame to direct the draft, creating a stronger flame and making the lamp safer to carry.

A thriving whaling industry developed to provide sperm oil for lighting, and regular whale oil as a lubricant for the machine parts of trains. In the United States alone, the whaling fleet swelled from 392 ships in 1833 to 735 by 1846. However, the demand for whale oil took a tremendous toll on whales, and some species were driven to the very brink of extinction. The right whale, one of the scarcer species, was killed in the early 1800s at a rate of about 15,000 per year. Had demand for whale oil continued, extinction would have undoubtedly claimed those and several other species.

When a clean-burning kerosene lamp invented by Michael Dietz appeared on the market in 1857, its effect on the whaling industry was immediate. Kerosene, known in those days as "Coal Oil", was easy to produce, cheap, smelled better than animal-based fuels when burned, and did not spoil on the shelf as whale oil did. The public abandoned whale oil lamps almost overnight.



## Do you use AMAZON.COM ?

Many of us do quite a bit of shopping on Amazon.com, for books or indeed, for just about anything else.

You can support the Museum while you shop on Amazon, and it won't cost you a dime. Amazon has a program in which they will contribute 0.5% of your purchase to a charity of your choice. This comes from Amazon and is *not* added to the price of the item to you.

You simply go to:

[SMILE.AMAZON.COM](http://SMILE.AMAZON.COM)

And sign up, designating the Historical Glass Museum as your charity. Then, when you shop, go to the above internet address and log in. Any purchases you make will result in a small credit to the Museum. And these small credits add up if we all take advantage of this program.

Everything is exactly the same as if you had gone to the "regular" Amazon web site, except for the donation to the Museum. Just remember that you must start *at smile.amazon.com* for your purchase to generate a contribution to the Museum.

Please consider this painless way to help support the Museum.



## Group Tours



No group tours scheduled at this time. We would love to host groups from schools, church groups, clubs, etc. Would yours be interested?

Weekday group tours for groups of 8 or more visitors are available by appointment. The charge is \$5.00 per person, with a minimum charge of \$40.00. For information and bookings, call Bill Summers at 951-850-0915.

Tour bus parking and a handicap ramp are available. The museum entrance and wheelchair ramp are located at the rear parking lot. There is also parking along the street curb on Western at Orange.

## Suggestions, Please

We try to improve our newsletter each issue, and we welcome suggestions from our members as to what you would like to see in the future. We hope to bring you news pertaining to the Museum, of course, as well as photos of recent acquisitions as they come in.

Do you have any thoughts about what YOU would like to see in the newsletter? Articles? More photos? Perhaps you would prefer a larger font. Or you might want a newsletter more like a letter, with a single column instead of the current style.

Whatever ideas, suggestions or criticism (good or bad) you might have, please share them with the webmaster at:

[webmaster@historicalglassmuseum.com](mailto:webmaster@historicalglassmuseum.com)