

Historical Glass Museum

September 2021 Volume 5 Issue 4



Museum Location:

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

Mailing Address:

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

www.historicalglassmuseum.com



The Museum has a page on Facebook, for those who like to indulge in social media. Search for REDLANDS HISTORICAL GLASS MUSEUM. (There is an older page without the word Redlands, but we are unable to update it.)

We encourage you to “FOLLOW” our page, as that will alert you to any new posts that are made to the page.

We periodically feature photos of selected items from the Museum collection on the facebook page so you can appreciate looking at them.

We also encourage you to share photos of **your collection** on the facebook page, as others will surely enjoy looking at them.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

As of June 1st, the Historical Glass Museum is fully back in business. We are open on weekends and we are more than ready to welcome walk-in visitors and tour groups of eight or more. If you would like to schedule a group tour, call Bill Summers at 951-850-0915. He may be able to schedule you during the week.

While the summer months tend to be slow, we are happy to report that we greeted 90 visitors in August! And as the weather cools, we'll be having tour groups, starting with a group of 30 scheduled for late September.

Donations have been coming in, and we have been able to restock the Gift Shop with “new” (to us) items. There are still plenty of brilliant cut glass items from a large donation featured in the last issue. This includes some Waterford crystal animals. We feature 30% off for the entire month of September.

As a follow up from our last newsletter's article on baby bottles, we wanted to let you know we have a member, Metty Thomason, who is the President of American Collectors of Infant Feeders (ACIF.org) as a resource person.

NEW MEMBERSHIP BONUS

For all members, you will now receive 40% off in the gift shop for the *entire month of your birthday*. This is in place of any other discounts that may be in effect at the time. Just another way we can thank you for being a member and supporting our Museum.

ON DISPLAY

The temporary display in the rotating display area, shown below, is a portion of a collection of 133 glass coasters donated by Paul Barbour.



A LOOK AT COIN GLASS

The Central Glass Co. was founded in Wheeling, WV, in 1863 by a group of dissatisfied workers from the Barnes, Hobbs and Co (later known as Hobbs, Brockunier and Co.). The company took over a former Distillery and Pork Packing plant.

Central eventually developed into one of the largest producers of glass in the U.S., *producing train car loads of glass* that were shipped worldwide. Fire destroyed the factory in 1888, but it was immediately rebuilt, and production continued. In early 1891, Central Glass was approached by the U.S. Glass Co. combine, but Central did not join the combine until about six months later, and designated as Factory "O" of the U.S. Glass Co.

In 1892, Central (i.e. Factory "O") developed the "Coin Glass" pattern. It was unique at the time, and still is something different in the realm of pattern glass. Genuine U.S. coins were used to fashion moulds with various denominations of coinage of the time. Silver dollars and silver half-dollars were most common, but other coin denominations were also used: the dime, the quarter, a twenty cent piece, and even a three cent piece (yes, those were *real* coins.)



U.S. Glass Coin (1892)

The glass pieces made by Central were not always decorated with a single coin size. A seven-inch diameter compote used dimes in the base, quarters impressed around the body, and a silver dollar impressed in the knob on the cover. In some pieces the coins were reversed so that the coins can be identified from both sides, front and back. This pattern includes quite a range of pieces: spooners, jugs, lamps, cake stands, footed bowls, celery dishes, goblets, sauce dishes, bread trays, syrup pitchers and pickle dishes. Very few items were produced in color, but some had the coins flashed in amber or red.

OOPS. Five months after production began, the Treasury Department moved in and declared that the process was actually counterfeiting. A Federal law had been violated in reproducing *actual* U.S. coins in the glass pieces. All of the moulds were then destroyed, along with much of the existing inventory. The result is that pieces of U.S. Glass' Coin with real U.S. coin images are rather scarce today.

There exist a number of modern reproductions of some of the U.S. Glass coin pieces, but *not* with genuine U.S. coinage, as that would still be illegal. These are imported items, likely from China.



Fostoria Coin (1957-82)

Today, the Coin glass commonly found is almost all the product of the Fostoria Glass Company. Fostoria's Coin was produced from 1957 through 1982 in five colors plus crystal. Fostoria used an acid treatment to lightly "frost" the coins. Some crystal pieces had gold on the coins. The Fostoria coins are stylized, and do not represent real coinage from any country.

Fostoria made some of the pieces (in crystal only) for Avon Cosmetics, with changes made to the coins that were unique to Avon. They also made (again, in crystal only) a number of pieces to celebrate Canada's 100th year commemoration (1867-1967). These coins have a date on them of 1867, and featured a bobcat, bird, goose and wolf. These coins were different from the Avon set and also from the original Fostoria line.

After the Fostoria factory closed in 1982, Lancaster Colony purchased the company, and they reissued many of the Fostoria Coin pieces. These later colors were slightly different than those of the original Fostoria line. Lancaster Colony sand-blasted the coins (as opposed to Fostoria's acid treatment) making the coin look much whiter than the original Fostoria items. Lancaster Colony's production of Coin ceased in 2003.

There are some nice examples of Fostoria Coin available for sale in the Museum's Gift Shop.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS ...

We would like to acknowledge the donations of glass or other items, to be used either for display at the Museum or to be sold in the Gift Shop to support the Museum's operations.

CASH DONATIONS:

JUNE

Barbara & Joe Soelter \$125.00
David & Linda Adams \$200.00
Metty Thomason \$100.00
Gerald & Robin Grube \$100.00
Martha Jo Morehouse \$100.00
J.Giles Waines \$70.00
Network for Good, Jacque Rocha fundraiser \$260.00
Jacque Rocha \$70.00

JULY

Lorie Johnson \$20.00

AUGUST

Wendy Steelhammer \$100.00
Network for Good, Joann Tortarolo fundraiser \$175.00

NON-MONETARY DONATIONS:

Martha Jo Morehouse
Ruth Lyons
Sandra Young
Jane Weyhrauch
Shirley Barnett
Paul Barbour
Maria Lemus

The Board of Directors would like to thank each of these donors for their generosity. Of course, we must also acknowledge the donation of TIME from those who maintain our collection, serve as docents and participate in the general cleaning days (third Thursday of each month). Thanks to all!



Betty Wanser, Bill Heacock, Gail Krause (1977)

IN MEMORIAM: BETTY WANSER



Betty and Herb Wanser

In June, the Historical Glass Museum Foundation lost Betty Wanser, a longtime Museum member. Betty was an avid collector of glass made by the A.H. Heisey Glass Company of Newark, Ohio. In the mid-1970s, she was one of the founders of the Heisey Collectors of California, a group which still exists today. Over the decades, she served as its President six times, Vice President twice, and Secretary once. She also served on the Board of Directors of the Heisey Collectors of America, frequently attending HCA's annual conventions.

Betty spoke about her favorite topic, Heisey glass, at the nascent Museum's Glass Seminar, which was held at the Disneyland Hotel in October of 1977. Other speakers included glass experts such as William Heacock (Victorian colored pattern glass) and Gail Krause (Duncan and Miller glass) shown in the photo, below left. This event was held to bring glass collectors together and share Museum founder Dixie Huckabee's vision for a glass museum here in Southern California. The seminar succeeded, and helped spark interest, participation, and funding to purchase and restore the historic home that houses the Museum collection today.

Betty and her late husband Herb also collected dolls, toys, perfume bottles, and clocks. For many years they sold glassware and other collectibles at the twice-annual Troubleshooter Antique Flea Market in Orange, and also at the Bakersfield China & Glass Collectors' annual Collector Showcase.

Collectors who knew Betty universally recall her agreeable nature and willingness to be of service to any group devoted to glass collecting. Many experienced glass collectors remember how she encouraged them when they first began collecting glass, always sharing her knowledge and experience freely.

Group Tours of the Museum



We're back in business for handling tour groups. We do, however, require wearing of masks, per CDC guidelines.

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.

We have a group of 30+ visitors scheduled for September 19th.

RESTORATION FUND

The Board of Directors established a Restoration Fund designated to set aside funds for restoration and maintenance of our century-old building.

The next phase of restoration will be a new roof, but it seems like the current roof is still fairly sound, so we have time to raise additional funds towards its eventual replacement.

The fund's balance stands at: \$20,137.

The Board welcomes cash donations designated for the Restoration Fund. You may designate "in Memory of " or "in Honor of " with your donation.

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

Historical Glass Museum
P. O. Box 9195
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SEPTEMBER 2021 FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello to all our members, collectors, and friends. We have been involved with another COVID mess, but masks, and more importantly, vaccines, will hopefully get us through.

I am very thankful to our friends who have donated glass and glass reference books so far this year. We are very appreciative for the many monetary donations received as well. The HGM is starting a new landscape design that will be beautiful, appropriate and very water-wise for our future generations.

We have recently had new and younger glass students become members. They have been very helpful by volunteering to clean and maintain our Museum, both inside and outside. It is great to see their enthusiasm.

Be healthy, safe, and involved.

Steve

RECENTLY FEATURED ON FACEBOOK

As a way to promote interest in the Museum, we have been posting photos featuring interesting pieces from the Museum collection on our Facebook page.



Fenton Assortment



Fenton Emerald Crest

STUDENTS FROM SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY COLLEGE



Wendi Salazar Joseph Chapparo

We are excited about an influx of young people at the Museum. Our local San Bernardino Valley College offers a class in glass blowing in their Arts Department. The glass class for this fall is only for beginners and it is created so students will be safe. Three of the students are members of the Historical Glass Museum. In fact, James Ojeda has been a member for several years, and he encouraged fellow students Joseph Chapparo and Wendi Salazar to help out on cleaning day. Unfortunately, James was unavailable when the above photo was taken. We're hoping that these young students will recruit others to become involved members.

NEW VIDEO BEING PRODUCED



The photo above shows a group of Students from SBVC who came to produce a video of the Museum for their school project. The video team is not a group of glass blowers, but they chose the Museum for their subject. When the project is completed, the Museum will receive a copy of the final video, and we will post it on our web site.

FINALLY, A SEMINAR ! FENTON WORKSHOP SEPT 25

The COVID pandemic has disrupted all of our lives this past year, and caused the cancellation of the series of Workshops and Seminars that we had been presenting at the Museum the last few years.

Our vice president, Bill Summers, will resume his popular series of Seminars on Fenton glass. For September, he will be speaking on the topic:

“Hobnail Glass from Hobbs Bruckunier in 1885 until Fenton in 1965”

Hobnail patterns were offered by a number of glass companies over the years. Bill will attempt to give a fairly comprehensive overview of this popular pattern.

There will be door prizes, refreshments and a question and answer session. Masks will be required, per CDC guidelines. Attendees are encouraged to bring items to be identified and to share with the group.

The Seminar begins at 11:00 am, Saturday September 25. If you think of it, bring a folding chair.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Welcome New Members:

Sherry & Dan Sidney	Lori Sagun
Bobby Thompson	Wendi Salazar
Mary Shedenhelm	Joseph Chapparo
Ann Stoetzer	Ruth Lyons
Christopher Molinar	Kelly Cude
	Terry Teel

HOW CAN *YOU* HELP THE HISTORICAL GLASS MUSEUM FOUNDATION?

BECOME A DOCENT !!

Of course, this way of supporting the Museum applies only to those who live somewhat close to Redlands, California. We are open on Saturdays and Sundays from 12noon to about 4pm.

Our docents are all unpaid volunteers. We train you to be able to discuss the various show cases and displays, and we schedule our docents at their convenience. You can volunteer for as little as one day a month, or even for the Summer months only. It is fun, educational, and you meet some really nice people. Please consider giving it a try.