

THE FENTON FAMILY

The First Generation

The Fenton Art Glass Company was founded in 1905 by Frank L. Fenton. With his \$280.00, his brother John's \$.86, and additional funds raised by stock sales, they rented space in the Haskins Glass Company building in Martins Ferry, Ohio. They bought glass blanks on which they painted decorations. They soon found that they had trouble getting glass from other companies when they wanted it so they decided to make their own.

In 1906 land was purchased in Williamstown, WV, and construction of the factory and furnaces started in October. The first glass was made on January 2, 1907 and history reflects it was a crystal cream pitcher in the water lily and cattails pattern.

With the Williamstown factory on firm foundation and in responsible hands, the company entered a period of prosperity. Frank L. Fenton was named President in 1910, along with his jobs as Treasurer and General Manager, and in 1925 his brother Robert C. Fenton was appointed Vice President-Secretary and Sales Manager. They maintained these positions until their deaths in 1948.

The Second Generation

In May of 1948, at the age of 32, Frank M. Fenton became President. Wilmer C. "Bill" Fenton, 24, became Vice-President.

The team of Frank and Bill led the factory through significant growth for nearly four decades. Frank was responsible for manufacturing, and Bill was responsible for sales. Together, they continued to develop new designs utilizing the flexibility and character of handmade glass.

In 1978 Frank assumed the position of Chairman of the Board, and Bill became President.

The Third Generation

In 1986 George W. Fenton became President, and he remains at the helm today. Bill Fenton is presently Chairman of the Board, and Frank M. Fenton retired to the position of Historian. Third generation family members currently employed at the factory in Williamstown are:

George W. Fenton, President/CEO

Don A. Fenton, Vice-President, Sales

Thomas K. Fenton, Vice-President, Manufacturing

Michael D. Fenton, Purchasing Manager/Safety Director

Shelley Fenton Ash, Graphics Mgr./Key Accounts

Nancy G. Fenton, Director of Design

Randall R. Fenton, Gift Shop Treasurer

Christine L. Fenton, Data Processor/Gift Shop

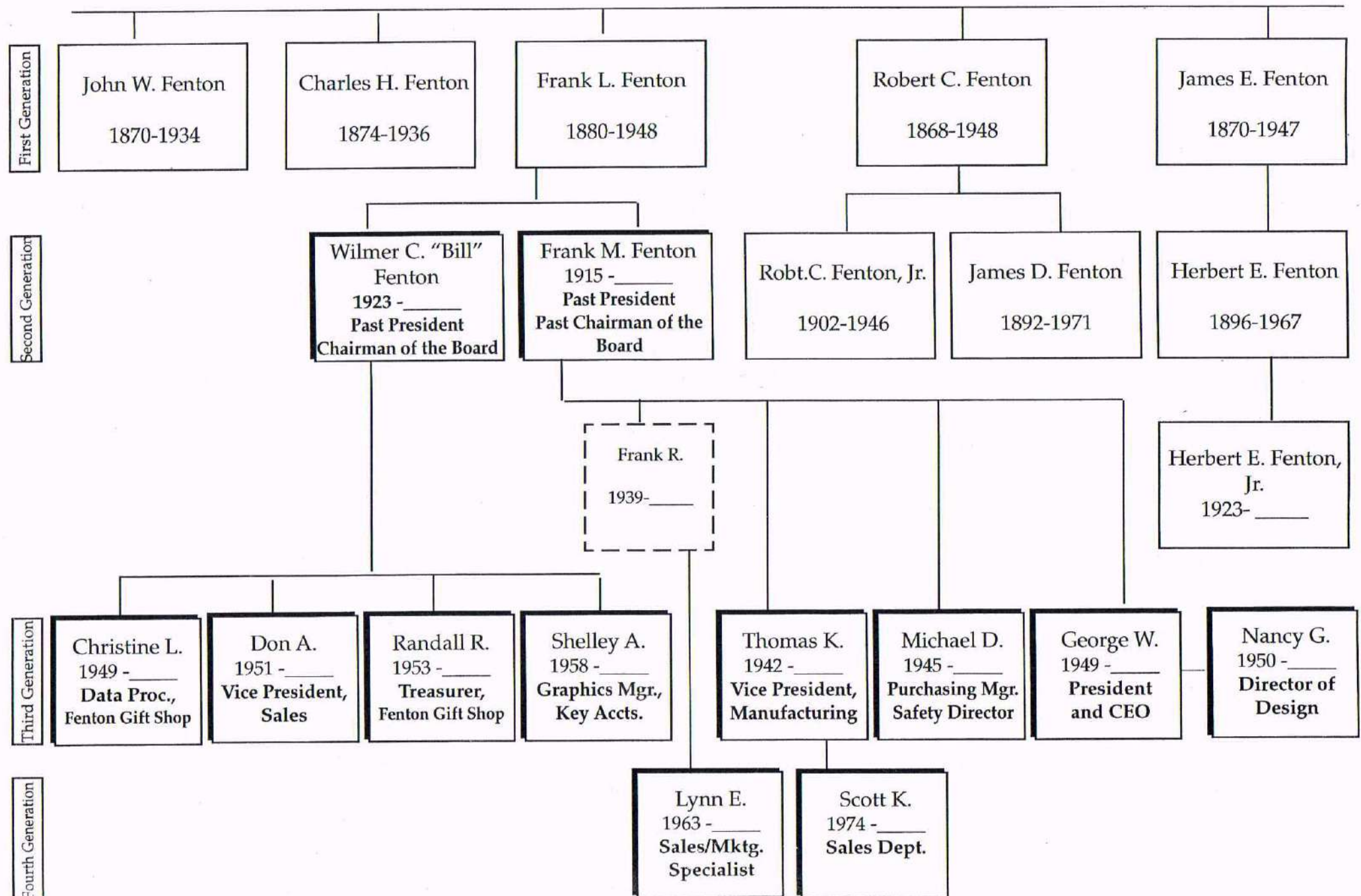
The Fourth Generation

In 1994, Lynn Fenton Erb, the first of the fourth generation, joined the Fenton management team in the position of Sales/Marketing Specialist. She works closely with the Fenton *Glass Messenger* newsletter and other projects.

Scott K. Fenton graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan in December 1997 with a major in business. He joined the Fenton sales staff in January 1998 and has been working hard to develop additional markets and support the sales team.

During the summer months, a few more fourth generation Fentons work at the factory & gift shop while on break from college.

Generational Chart of Fenton Management ...



HISTORY OF THE FENTON LABEL



Circa 1921.
Color: Only a black & white copy available.



Circa 1925.
Color: Outer rim & printing is silver and background is ivory.



Circa 1939.
Color: Blue – part of the letterhead.



Circa 1939 to 1947-48.
Color: Silver label & silver print and a greenish yellow background. There were 2 styles used - Handmade in America by Fenton & Handmade by Fenton.



Circa 1940 – 41.
Color: Red and white – may have been used for shop samples.



Circa 1949 to 1952 –53.
Color: Yellow on silver – 1949. Yellow – 1950. Brown – 1950. Blue – 1950 to 1952-53. Gold – 1950 to 1952-53.



Circa 1949-50 to 1957.
Color: Used only on Milk Glass in 2 types. Dark background is red with silver print & light background is silver with red print.



Circa 1952-53 to 1957.
Color: Brown with silver print. Gold (greenish yellow) with silver print. Foil with blue & silver.



Circa 1957 to 1971.
Color: Magenta and blue. The “worker” label.



Circa 1957 to 1971.
Color: Magenta & blue for Milk Glass. The print reads “Milk Glass Handmade.”



Circa 1968 to 1982-85.
Color: Black & white. Used on hand-painted items with other labels.



Circa 1970 – 1985.
Color: Black & gold. This “worker” label has rounded edges.



Circa 1982 – 85 to present.
Color: White & black, used on handpainted items, with other labels.



Circa 1985 to 1996.
Color: Silver & black. Bottom portion is for price & it can be removed. 3 styles used – Handmade, Hand-painted, and Quality Giftware.



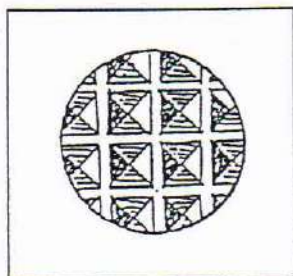
Circa 1990 to 1995.
Color: Silver & black. This label was used on special order items such as QVC, and does not list price information.



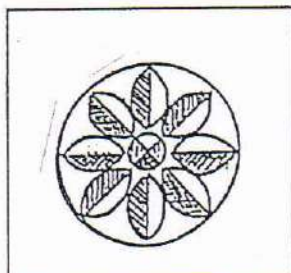
Circa 1997
Color: Silver & black. 3 styles used – Handmade, Handpainted, and Quality Giftware. The price portion was separated from the label.

HANDLERS' MARKS

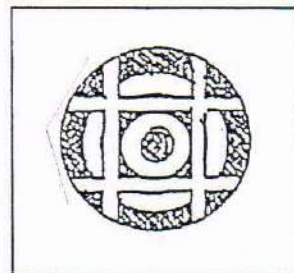
Each Fenton basket bears an individual "handler's mark." The highly skilled handler attaches the handle and stamps his personal mark. This handler's mark is his alone, thus each Fenton basket can be traced back to the craftsman who created it. Featured on this page are the current handlers' marks and on the back are the retired handlers' marks, accompanied by handler's employment dates.



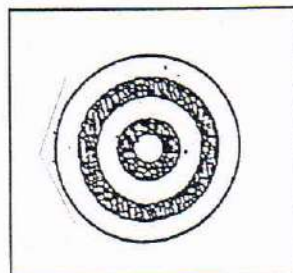
RON BAYLES
1956 – Current



DAVE VINCENT
1964 – Current



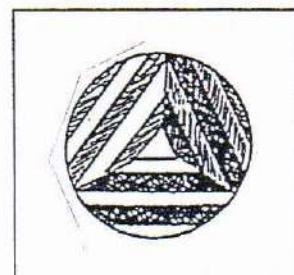
BOB PATTERSON
1973 – Current



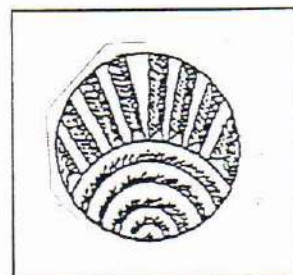
BUTCH WRIGHT
1973 – Current



BRIAN GREEN
1986 – Current



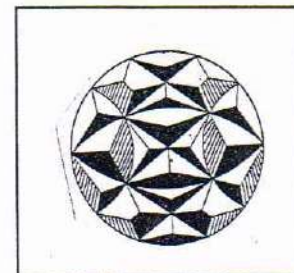
TERRY DEULEY
1989 – Current



BOB BUCHANAN
1990 – Current



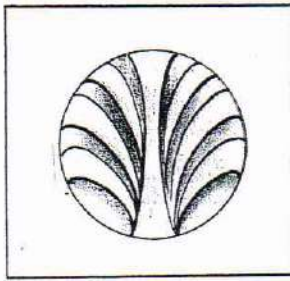
RONALD FARLEY
1993 – Current



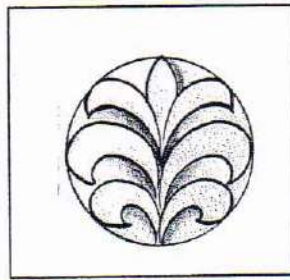
TOM INGRAM
1996 – Current



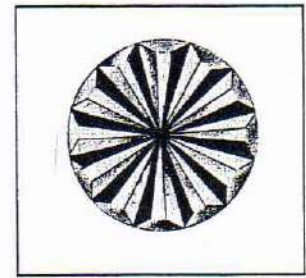
APPRENTICE MARK



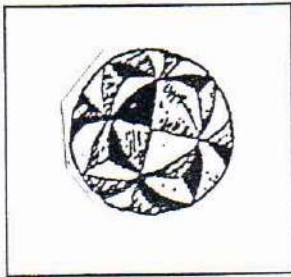
PETER K. RAYMOND
1907 - 13 & 1921 - 1964



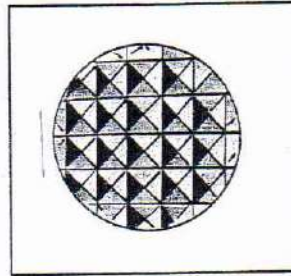
FRANK O. MYERS
1932 - 1962



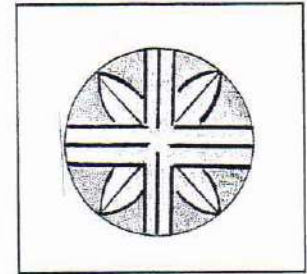
D. AUSTIN ALLISON
1933 - 1982



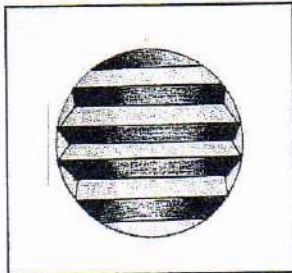
LLOYD LAUDERMAN
1953 - 1993



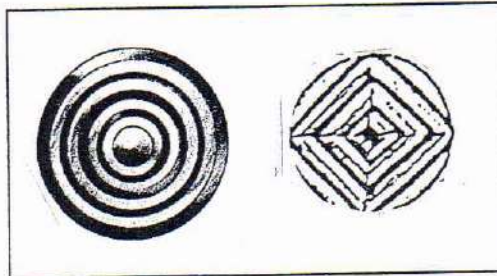
DONALD BADGLEY
1956 - 1978



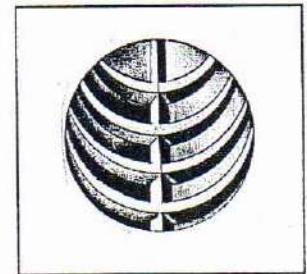
EDWIN J. GARBER
1957 - 1968



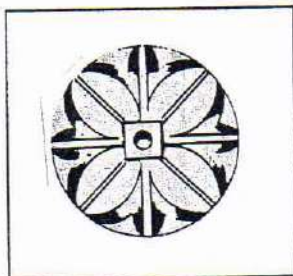
FLOYD DUFF
1962 - 1978



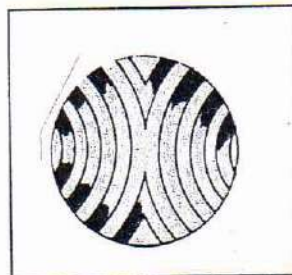
JUNIOR THOMPSON
1957 - 77 & 1990 - 1993



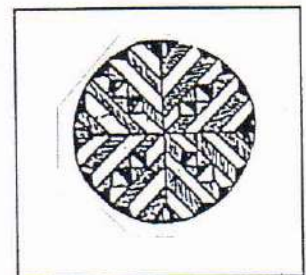
FRED BRUCE
1953 - 1990



DELMER STOWASSER
1965 - 1990



ROBERT OLIVER, SR.
1957 - 1995



J.R. PHILLIPS
1986 - 1995

DISCONTINUED TERMINOLOGY

Items "discontinued" will fall into one of three categories:

1. **SOLD OUT**

To apply to all items in regular line, QVC, etc., that are limited by number or limited by time.

e.g.: Family Signature, Historic, Connoisseur, Heart Optic Cranberry Opalescent, Carnival offering for calendar year, and signature items for QVC with specific limit.

NOTE: On "Sold Out" items, the item or collection will not be produced by Fenton again in same finish, decoration, etc.

2. **RETIRED**

To apply to all other offerings not covered in #1.

e.g.: Color statements (PL, LS, LE, etc.) Cranberry (CC), Pansies on Cranberry (CW), and Bell Medley.

NOTE: On "Retired" items, the item or collection will not be made again for at least 10 years in the same finish, treatment, etc. We do not intend to produce after the 10 years but reserve the right to do so. If an item is brought back, the logo will convey the decade of production to distinguish from previous issues.

3. **TEMPORARILY NOT IN PRODUCTION** To apply to seasonal offerings.

e.g.: Christmas items, Easter Baskets, Figurines, etc.

The Exception: "Samples" in Fenton Gift Shop involve different shapes or treatments than what is offered in the regular line or on QVC. These include one-of-a-kind items or 50-of-a-kind items. (There is no pattern to what may be available.)

How is this conveyed at point of purchase and to our collectors? To reduce confusion, Fenton will supply retired stickers to be used on any and all discontinued offerings. The following are available at no charge to all dealers who request them.

SIGNAGE

5" x 7" counter card with clear, concise definitions of 'Sold Out' and 'Retired.'

STICKERS

"Retired" stickers are available for placement on all discontinued ware.

A packet including 1 sign, 1 sheet of "Retired" stickers and a listing of 1998 discontinued ware numbers is available, (FG102).