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NUMBER 4

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# STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY

April 1991

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## President's Message

Dear Members:

Have you noticed the new scents in the Spring air? Things like budding trees, blooming forsythia, hyacinths, and the opening of the outdoor flea markets. Spring, for me, is also synonymous with Stretch Glass Convention. My reservation is made. Is yours? Did you include your choice of dinner entree with your reservation?

Rose Schleede reports that we will be welcoming visitors from her carnival glass club on Thursday evening. Please note--we are adding show hours from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday to accommodate people who must be at work during the day Friday.

Advertising will appear in two national antique collectable publications in April, and in a Rochester/Batavia area newspaper the week of convention.

I'm eagerly looking forward to May 2nd; hope to see YOU there!

Sincerely,

*Joanne*

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We are again enclosing Convention information as a reminder if you haven't made your reservations since the first information was sent to you in January. After any member has taken the responsibility of making all arrangements, we do urge you to make an effort to attend. Also bring some of your Stretch Glass pieces if you can, to place in the display room so all can enjoy.

Our President, Joanne, advises that ads have been placed in three publications--Glass Collectors Digest Apr.-May issue; 3 issues in Antique Trader (1 each Feb., Mar. & April) and Feb., Mar. and April of New York Antique Almanac.

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DUES: Eight Dollars (\$8.00) annually for each family - payable to Treasurer, Augusta M. Keith, April 1st.

(Please note that DUES are now due!)

Following is a letter received from the Umbracos of Richmond,CA.:

Hi Mildred:

Hope you had a happy holiday season filled with lots of beautiful stretch glass.

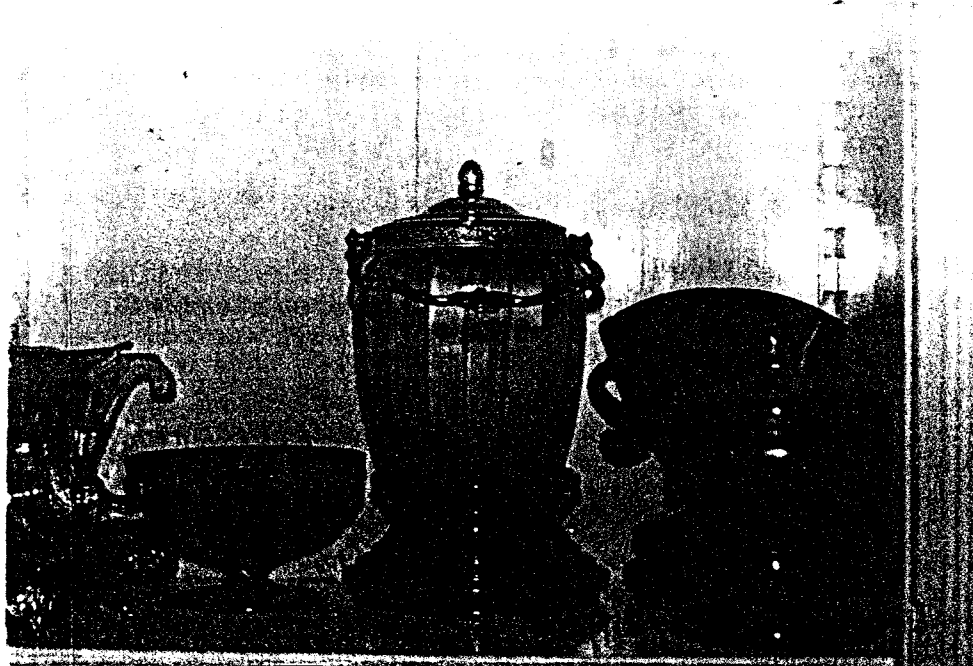
Sorry about bragging, but stretch glass is worth bragging about. I was very pleased to find a stretch glass cracker jar that Santa had brought under the Christmas tree. Now I do believe in Santas! He found it while on his way back from the dentist's office. As an orthodontic dental nurse, I always preach the virtues of getting your teeth cleaned. Boy, what a reward we got for his not having any cavities! Last year he found a wisteria toothpick. I don't think his luck could get any better next year! Enclosed is a picture. It truly is stretch glass with a pot metal top and lid. NO marks at all on it. Looks like Fenton's lemonade pitcher without a pouring spout and handle. Has anyone ever seen another or anything similar?

As to Berry's comments in the January newsletter, we would like to add that the Fenton punch cups can also be found in white or Persian Pearl stretch glass. When we first wrote our book in 1972, we were told of red stretch punch cups. For years we tried to track them down without success and even advertised that we wanted red punch cups. Several well known collectors of the time said they had seen them. Those collectors have passed away, but we still believe there are some out there. Would love to buy just one or even a dozen (if you are going to dream--dream big).

The convention sounds great. Hope that John (Miller) will again take a video of it. We have enjoyed last year's convention on the video so much.

Good newsletter Mildred. Happy stretch glass hunting.

Russell and Kitty



The following was received from our member Mr. Noel V. Godby, 1974 Arroyo Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070. His address is given because of his reference to it in his letter:

Dear Mrs. Bicksler:

I am looking for a Sapphire Blue bowl with attached candlesticks Umbraco's Book KU 124, and would like to place an ad. or notice, to this effect in the Society's Newsletter.

If anyone has this piece for sale I should be grateful if they would call me collect at (405)591-3805 or write me. (Address given above.)

Incidentally I have a number of pieces I would like to sell or exchange.

Anything you can do to help me will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Noel V. Godby

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The following article is a look into the past and proved to be thought-provoking and could be of interest to new members. I'm sure you have all at some time or other noted that the Stretch Glass Society was organized in 1974. At that time James Farr of Florence, KY. was president. This was his "President's Message" in the Oct. 1974 newsletter and in researching material furnished to me by long-time Editor, Paul Miller, I came across this. When I accepted the office of Editor I was advised that often times not too much news is received and yet I think everyone looks forward to a newsletter, so I mentioned at that time there would possibly be reprints of previous items, educational and of interest, I hope. As everyone realizes, since organizing the Society many members have passed away, suffered the infirmities of age, perhaps, and of necessity are no longer with us as members. Therefore, I feel some of these articles are worth repeating to keep all of us "on our toes" so to speak.

Mr. Farr begins as follows, I quote:

"Furious is the word! Why do authorities make written statements as authorities without researching their subject???"

I become utterly furious each time I read, and I quote from a well-known Carnival Glass price guide referring to Stretch, there-in referred to as Imperial Jewels, "however since 1968 red glass of this type has been imported and it is nearly impossible to tell old American Glass of similar type". Unquote.

Number one, the items referred to "plates of various sizes, creamers and sugars, and rose bowls of different sizes and shapings", are not Imperial Jewels but rather Stretch. Stretch as we know it

because of the mold marks. The imported glass has a ground, smooth, recessed pontil. Not a ground rim on the bottom as some Stretch has, and as most high quality crystal and colored glass has that was made by Fostoria, Tiffin, Cambridge, Heisey and many other glass companies. I will repeat, the European imported Art Glass, commonly called reproduced stretch glass, has a ground or polished recessed pontil. I again quote, "it is nearly impossible to tell old American glass of similar type". unquote. Number two, Old American glass of this type is now, and always has been Art Glass whatever the color. Art Glass has a ground pontil, not Stretch, not Carnival, not Imperial Jewels, but Art Glass.

As if this hadn't done enough to confuse and deceive the Stretch Glass Collector, now comes another unresearched goof. In the Fall edition of the Antique Trader Price Guide under the Stretch Glass section, I quote, "this type glass is now being reproduced". Unquote.

This is another statement that will do our hobby irreparable damage for years to come. Since this is an Art Glass that is being imported today, why not say Steuben is being reproduced in many Aurene colors? Why not say Tiffany is being reproduced? Why not say Quezal of the Larson type is being reproduced? (Larson later worked for Durand who did make Stretch in its last days). All of this glass was iridescent, with a stretch effect and a ground pontil. A much better comparison to the European Art Glass.

Schneider of France has made fine Art Glass for years with the stretch effect and ground pontil, and still is today. Much of the imported, so-called reproduced Stretch attributed to West Germany comes from Schneider.

Why then, if good American and European Art Glass of this type has stretch marks over its surface and polished pontil marks on its base, do these people insist on calling this ware reproduced Stretch Glass?? The only similarity being the surface finish.

If the White House in Washington, D. C. were painted with a certain type and color of paint, and if I were to come by some of this paint and paint my house with it, then to use the same type reasoning as has been used about the glass you would have to say that Farr reproduced the White House in Kentucky. How far off base can authorities get before they are called out by the Umpire?

If Stretch Glass collecting as a hobby is to survive these continuous attacks by the uninformed authorities, then we must all become Umpires. Let them know in no uncertain terms when they are off base and perhaps we will survive. The written word is gospel to so many people and the damage is done. Only through our untiring efforts to educate and inform the public and collecting fraternity about our hobby can we expect to grow and prosper."

UNQUOTE

CONVENTION - 1991  
BATAVIA, NEW YORK

ROOM RESERVATIONS

Single: \$52 per night  
Double: \$59 per night  
plus 7% sales tax

Reservations must be in by April 18 to guarantee your place in the SGS block of rooms. Reservations made after that date may be on an "as available" basis.

To hold your room past a 6:00 p.m. arrival, send a deposit (whatever you want) or give your credit card number and expiration date.

When you mail your reservation, also give them your selection of entree for the banquet. Selections are:

Top Round of Beef - \$11.90                      Stuffed Chicken Breast - \$12.44  
White Fish Fillet - \$13.66

The balance of the meal is the same for everyone: fresh melon, peas and mushrooms, parsley potatoes, salad, rolls, butter, pie, coffee and tea. The price includes tax and tip.

PLEASE make a note of your choice of food so that we will know what to charge you when collecting the money on Thursday.

Mail your reservation to: Sandra A. Heineman, Holiday Inn of Batavia, 200 Oak Street, Batavia, New York 14020. Their telephone number is 716/343-1440.

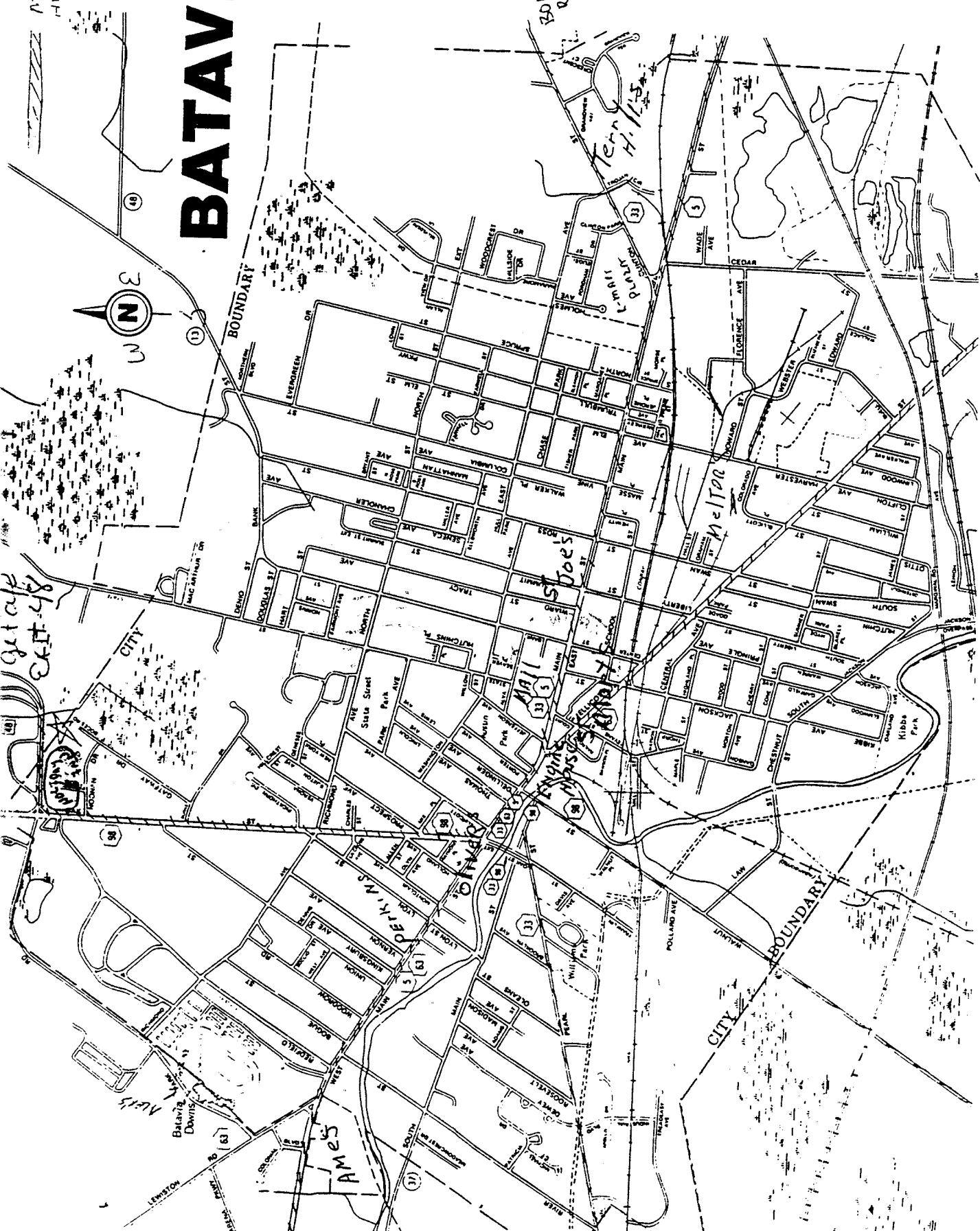
Attached is a map which shows the location of Holiday Inn and the major routes which lead there.

We will be provided with 8' tables covered with table cloths. Tea and coffee will be available Thursday and Friday. Should you wish to bring snacks to share with the group, I'm sure they will be eaten with gusto.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 2 - arrive any time and set up display tables.  
Dinner on our own.  
Friday, May 3 - Show/sale open 9 a.m to 5 p.m. We will pack up and move the boxes to our rooms before the banquet  
6:30 p.m. - banquet  
7:30 p.m. - speaker (see announcement enclosed)  
8:30 p.m. (approx.) - business meeting.  
we should be out before 10 p.m.

# BATAVIA



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