

QUARTERLY

MAY 2010

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President’s Message:

Stretch has it all!



Your President has been establishing the prices for some of the best glassware on the market: I've been the "back-up bidder" on numerous pieces! Demand for quality iridescent Stretch Glass is still high.

Stretch Glass has it all: beauty, collectability, availability, and variety. I love the multicolor iridescence and the variety of glass colors and shapes from which to choose. Much of our Stretch is approaching 100 years old and is of highest quality. While not too common, I run across it quite often. Granted, I don't latch onto every piece of Stretch I find, like I did at the beginning; I now leave many of the "bargains" for others to find.

We have such a variety to choose from. In my research, I have found that half of Stretch Glass is priced under \$100.00, one quarter between \$100 and \$150, but ten percent is valued at \$300.00 or more!

Value is determined by scarcity, quality, and demand. We can't do much about the supply, other than getting out there and finding it. If nobody, or only a few, knows the status of a specific piece of glass, its value will be limited. Together, we can work to increase the demand for and knowledge of -- and thus the value of -- iridescent Stretch Glass.

It is hard work to keep up with all the trends and changes in our world of collecting. The largest Antique Mall in Missouri will open this month about a mile from my house -- another reason for you to come and visit! Until then, I look forward to seeing you and all the wonderful Stretch Glass at our Convention.

Keep on collecting and enjoying!

Tim



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Vase Identification Contest



We should all be selecting our best vases to bring to convention this year. After seeing the 'Garden of Vases' club display and presentation, we'll all know more about stretch glass vases than we do now.

Here's a way to test your current knowledge. Each of these vases has a shape ("mould") unique to its manufacturer. Identify the correct maker for each of the five numbered vases and send an email to slenben@comcast.net – or a note to Stephanie Bennett P.O. Box 947, Medford, MA 02155. There will be two winners: the earliest time stamped correct email, and the earliest postmarked correct U.S. mailed note. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter, and will also receive a piece of recent Fenton stretch glass.

Please note that the comparative sizes of these vases are not correctly represented in the pictures – in other words, you can't tell which vases are taller, shorter, narrower, or wider than the others. Also, you don't need to see color, only mould shape, to make the identification. To be fair, this contest isn't open to Executive Board members, "experts" (they know who they are), or their families. Thanks to Renée Shetlar for the idea of having an identification contest. If this one is well received, there may be more.



2010 Stretch Glass Society Convention, Show and Sale UPDATE

by Cal Hackeman, 2010 Convention Chair

By now I hope everyone has the dates and location for this year's gathering of iridescent stretch glass enthusiasts committed to memory, but just in case this is not the case, we will be at the Comfort Inn, Marietta, OH on July 28, 29 and 30, 2010. (See back page to call for reservations.) Our schedule is very similar to prior years and is included in full on page 8 of this newsletter. We have a couple of exciting updates since the last SGS Quarterly, so please read on.

The 2010 Convention souvenir has been made and it is an outstanding example of iridescent stretch glass which I expect you will want to add to your collection. The violet comport was made in a flared out – nearly flat – shape (just perfect for serving candy, brownies, cookies or other treats to your family and friends). They will be available to SGS members only at a cost of \$49.50 for the first one or two you order; if you order a third or fourth souvenir, these will be at a slightly reduced price. I am sure you will agree that this is a wonderful, practical piece of iridescent stretch glass. Please keep in mind that only a limited quantity of these was made – Fenton re-shaped and iridized one of their catalog pieces for us and only for us.



Two different views of the 2010 Souvenir

As is customary, they also made a nice selection of whimsies for us, as you can see from the photos below. We will be offering one of the whimsies in our 2010 raffle, others in our silent auction and still others in a live auction, so there will be multiple opportunities for you to get one.



Some of the 2010 Whimsies

Other exciting news is that we have a new caterer and menu for the Thursday night banquet. The restaurant in the Comfort Inn is under new management and they will be providing a buffet of carved top round of beef, chicken Monterey, vegetable lasagna, mashed potatoes and California mixed vegetables along with sweet brown rolls with honey butter, a plated salad and assorted pies for dessert. And...there is no change in the price from last year! We will also be making a change to our Annual Business Meeting luncheon which will feature delicious subs from Subway and other assorted goodies. Hopefully you will agree that these changes are responsive to your survey feedback asking us to improve the food at the convention.

As I have mentioned before, the Club display is "A Garden of Vases." I am already aware of a couple members who will be bringing a wide selection of Diamond vases as well as several rare and unusual vases by US Glass. Of course, no one (that I know of) has one of everything, so we need you to select your favorite vases and bring them along for the display in an effort to make it as complete as possible. There is no need to tell us in advance what you are going to bring – just bring whatever you would like as long as it is iridescent stretch glass. I'm sure the "Garden of Vases" will have room for all the vases our members wish to share. We will be looking for some volunteers to help set up the display on Wednesday afternoon, so if you can help, please let me know.

And, as I have also mentioned previously, we expect to have an exciting array of iridescent stretch glass for sale by members starting with the "Stampede" and continuing through the entire convention. Please remember that you must be a member in good standing – dues paid – in order to sell iridescent stretch glass at the convention. And you may ONLY sell iridescent stretch glass in the convention show room. If you have other glass or items to sell, please utilize your hotel room for offering them for sale. We want to keep the show room strictly devoted to showcasing iridescent stretch glass – vintage as well as recent – and this goes for member displays as well as for sale items.

Please watch your mailbox for your 2010 SGS Convention, Show and Sale packet. You will receive everything you need to order 2010 convention souvenirs, reserve tables for your display and sale of iridescent stretch glass, participate in the silent auction, buy raffle tickets, register for the convention, reserve a seat at the banquet and more. We look forward to your participation in some or all of these activities and hope to see you in person at the 2010 SGS Convention, Show and Sale in Marietta, OH on July 28, 29 and 30, 2010.



Stretch Glass Handled Servers

by Dave Shetlar

It's been quite a while since I've discussed the handled servers made in stretch glass. Another glass historian contacted me last year concerning her writing a new book on glass handled servers. Easily, there could be over a 100 of these glass plates with a center molded handle made by American glass companies from 1900 through 1950. While this time period is not technically the Depression Era, the definition of glass made during this period is being stretched both directions! This is likely because the manufacturers used the molds developed just before the Depression and during the Depression until they went out of business (except for Fenton!) or the molds were sold, either for scrap metal or to be shipped over seas. Fortunately, to differentiate their products, most companies made unique handles, shapes or decorations for their handled servers. But, a looped handle can be made in just so many shapes! Like most stretch glass pieces, it's the tiny details that help differentiate similar pieces. Stretch glass handled servers, especially the 'shovel-handled' ones can be difficult to separate unless you are willing to have diagrams or illustrations close at hand.

First, I want to discuss the standard 9 to 11-inch diameter servers. The vast majority of these servers have a handle that ends in some kind of loop. Probably the easiest to identify are loops that have unique shapes, like the heart-shaped ones. Diamond made a server with a small heart (Fig. 3) in Blue and Green. The Imperial heart-handled server (Figs. 5 & 6) has an octagonal plate and usually comes in pink or crystal. However, a few light aquamarine pieces have been found (Fig. 6). The dolphin-handled servers (the loop, is made from the tail) are Fenton's production (at least in stretch glass). Even the normal loop-handles can be divided into shovel-shaped (e.g., Figs. 1, 2, 4, 9-12, 21-24) or simple loops (e.g., Figs. 13-16). The most difficult ones are the shovel-shaped handles that have flat tops.

Flat-top, Shovel-handled Servers. The Northwood handle (Fig. 4) has a very short stem and rounded sides. The stem is six-sided, but this ends at the basal pedestal (this pedestal has a distinct depression). Northwood servers are most commonly found in Blue and Topaz, but Russet, Pearl (crystal) and marigold are known. Where are the Jade Blue ones?! The Northwood server can occasionally be confused with the Lancaster servers (Fig. 24) which have the six sided stem ending in a basal ring before the pedestal and the handle itself is much thicker. These are usually found in light to dark marigold (Aztec and Rose Ice) and Iris Ice (crystal). The Imperial shovel-handled servers (Figs. 9 & 10) are easy to identify because the six sides of the handle stem extend across

the pedestal base and there is no basal ring. These are usually found in Iris Ice (crystal), Rose Ice (marigold) and Blue Ice (smoke) with or without cutting. The toughest flat-top servers to separate are the Diamond (Fig. 2) and Jeannette wide spade-foot (Fig. 11) servers. Both have long, six-sided stems and both have a basal ring before the pedestals. If you look at the images, you will see that the Diamond handle is wider and the V-angle of the loop is wider than seen in the Jeannette piece. Jeannette's server base is also distinctly wider than the pedestal width, while the Diamond server base is about as wide as the pedestal width. The Diamond servers are usually found in Blue or Green and none are common. The Jeannette servers are found in various shades of marigold. Jeannette made another server (Fig. 12), but this one has a very narrow handle and the six sided base goes all the way to the pedestal without a basal ring. This server also has a 16-point star impressed into the base. Since these are the most difficult servers to identify, line drawings are included at the end of the article, on page 6.

Rounded-top, Shovel-handled Servers. U.S. Glass made two such servers. Their normal server, the #179 (Figs. 21 & 22) has a slightly rounded top. The stems are six-sided that end at the ring before joining into the pedestal. These are found in Topaz, Blue and Crystal, but a couple of purple ones are known. The #310 server (Fig. 23) also has a rounded top, but the six sets of double rays on the plate surface is unique. These are only found in pink and green.

Loop-Handled Servers. While many companies made loop-handled servers, only Fenton made a loop handled server in stretch glass (Figs. 13-16). The 10-inch plates come in three treatments - flat (Fig. 13), pulled up (Fig. 14) and cupped-in (Fig. 15). The flat one is considered to be a sandwich tray and the pulled up one is a handled fruit bowl. We don't have a name for the cupped-in form. These are found in all the Fenton Florentine Line colors (except for ruby) but Persian Pearl, Aquamarine, Tangerine and Wistaria (sic.) are not common. An oval shaped server is also known (Fig. 16), but this is very uncommon. This is usually found in Celeste Blue, Velva Rose and Tangerine.

The dolphin-handled servers are difficult to find and highly prized. They usually have the diamond-optic design (Fig. 18) but occasionally a plain one is found (Fig. 17). These are usually found in Florentine Green, Velva Rose and Aquamarine. I've seen an unridized one in Tangerine, so is there a stretch one?! Remember that this mold was rediscovered by the Fenton workers and the Stretch Glass Society had some made in a dark Wisteria (purple), but many were recently made by the factory in aqua-opalescent glass (Fig. 19). Fortunately, all the new ones are marked at the base of the stem.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

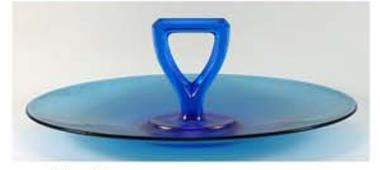


Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



Fig. 14



Fig. 15



Fig. 16



Fig. 17



Fig. 18



Fig. 19



Fig. 20



Fig. 21



Fig. 23



Fig. 24



Fig. 26



Fig. 22



Fig. 25



Fig. 27

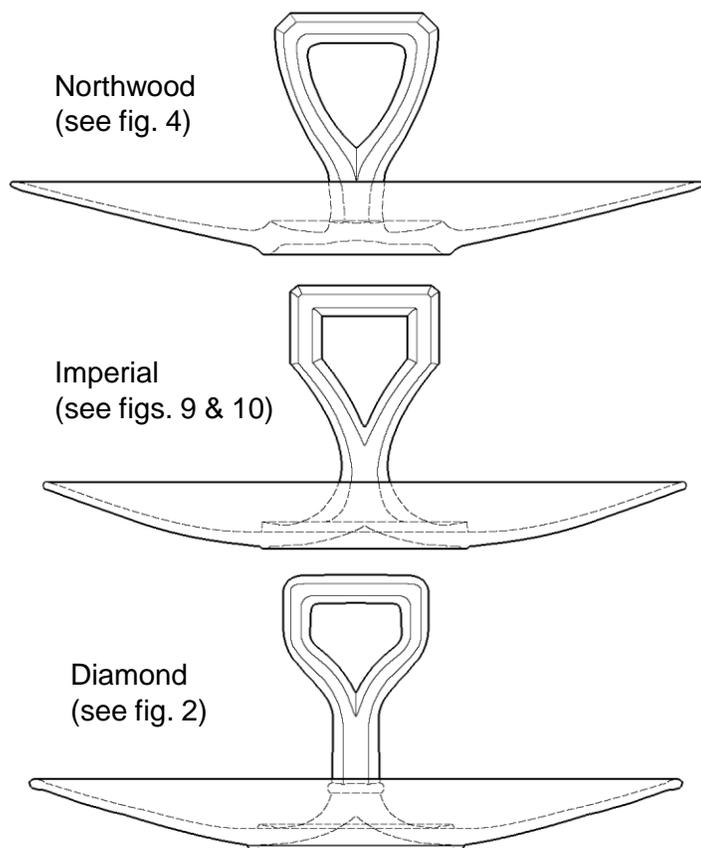
Stretch Glass Handled Servers, continued

A unique server was made by Imperial. It is actually called a candleholder bowl (Fig. 8). This is obviously a handled server where the handle is also a candleholder! At one time, these were considered to be quite rare, but quite a few have shown up over the years, mainly in smoke and marigold, but a couple dark purple ones are also known.

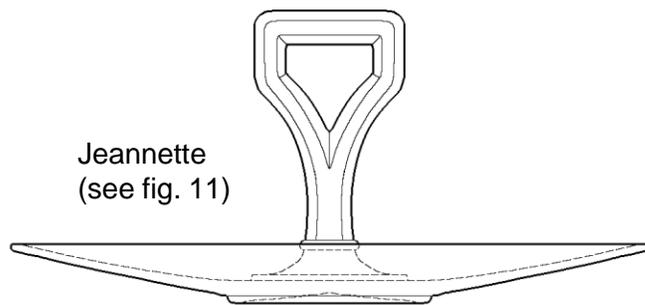
Fenton also made smaller servers in stretch. The most common one is the lemon server (Fig. 25) which has a small stem that is topped with a perfectly round ball. These can be found in all the Florentine colors except for ruby and Persian Pearl. Fenton made three butter-ball tray styles. The most desirable one is the dolphin handled one (Fig. 20) which has been found in Celeste Blue, Florentine Green and Velva Rose. The other two trays have shovel-handles with rounded tops. The most common one has a round tray (Fig. 26), but oval ones are also known (Fig. 27).

While most of the handled servers are without decoration, Imperial often decorated theirs. These can range from simple enamel decorations (Fig. 5), to enamel decoration with gold leaf (Fig. 6), to decals (Fig. 7), to etched, enameled and gold leafed (Fig. 9) and a half dozen cutting patterns are known (Fig. 10). I hope to discuss these in a future article!

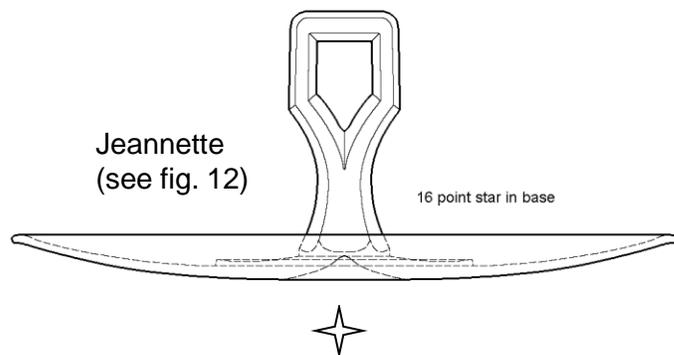
Line Drawings of Flat-top, Shovel-handled Servers



Jeannette
(see fig. 11)



Jeannette
(see fig. 12)



TO OUR NON-RENEWED MEMBERS:

This last newsletter is sent to you as fair warning – it is your last SGS Quarterly unless you renew your membership NOW. You know who you are – and so do we - and we will have membership records at the convention registration desk this year. There are two criteria which must be met for you to fully participate in the 2010 convention:

- Your 2010 dues must be paid in full, and
- You must be pre-registered for the convention by the July 9 deadline.

Those members who arrive at convention expecting to renew their memberships and register at the door, may do so only by paying a full year's membership dues and full registration fee. In addition:

- Only pre-registered members may draw numbers for the stampede line-up (all others will be at the end of the line), and
- Sales tables, if still available, will cost \$25, (rather than \$5 or \$10 with pre-registration).

Late renewals and renewals at convention registration make the jobs of all who have leadership responsibilities in our society more difficult. While the Board of Directors has decided it's too late this year and too close to convention to completely change our practices without warning, they do believe that members who renew on time and pre-register for the convention should be rewarded. In addition, this will be a topic of discussion at the convention board meeting so that everyone can be notified of stricter enforcement of membership renewal rules in 2011 and beyond.



A Collector At Heart, or Suffering From “ACAH”

by Mike Getchius

My wife says that I am just a collector at heart: be it glass (stretch glass being a major part of the glass category), Standard Oil items (my father was a SO agent until his death), antique and specialty woodworking tools (I am after all a cabinetmaker by trade), aloha shirts (a side effect of living in the islands), or coins (one of the things my father collected). This story is however about another line of collectibles: antique office items, which of course includes fountain pens. This is the collection I'm bringing for this year's convention banquet program, “**I Also Collect,**” deciding it was easier to transport than my glass crown gas pump globes.

I am probably partial to fountain pens because, when I was growing up and going to parochial school, we used fountain pens for class work and in penmanship class. At the time I was in school, most fountain pens were cartridge type, but older pen ink fill mechanisms varied by company patent.

A few of the pen companies and ink filling types were: **Parker** (lucky-curve, vacumatic, capillary); **Sheaffer** (lever, snorkel); **Conklin** (crescent); **Esterbrook** (lever); **Wahl** (plunger); and **Waterman** (piston). Along with these nationally sold brands there were many regional pen companies.

Fountain pen barrel and cap materials varied widely from the earliest hard rubber, celluloid, and early plastics, to modern day plastics and metals of all types including solid gold, sterling silver, and titanium. As for colors, they ran the gamut from the ever popular black to all the colors of the rainbow, as well as multi-colored marbles and metallic finishes. Pens also varied in size from jumbo to ladies petite. There was even a ring-top pen, designed to be worn on a chain around a lady's neck.

The actual writing part of the pen, the nib, sometimes called point or tip, varied in size and material. Esterbrook made a total of 73 Re-new points in what they called “Durachrome” or “Osmiridium.” Sizes for these ran from a No.5550 Firm Extra Fine, for bookkeeping, to a No.9968 Firm Broad for bold writing. These simply screwed into your existing pen barrel. Other companies with fixed-nib pens required you to take into consideration the end use of the pen you were purchasing. For signatures, you might want a medium width soft or flexible nip to capture all the flourishes of your hand. For bookkeeping, a fine firm point works best for writing very legible numbers. But if decorative, cursive writing is to your liking, then a broad tip is what you'll need. Many companies made pens with 14 Kt gold nibs. There is nothing more disheartening than removing a beautiful cap from a beautiful pen barrel, only to find that the nib is missing – pulled by a non-collector and

turned in for its gold value. To be continued . . . (at this year's Iridescent Stretch Glass Convention). See you there. I'll be the one in the Hawaiian aloha shirt.

Pictured here is a display Cyndi and I put together for our public library this spring. I know the “Rite of Spring” is wrong but that was the idea.



One of My “Other” Collections

by Cal Hackeman

The banquet program at the 2010 convention, show and sale is going to be all about you and your “other collection,” so I thought I would share a little something on one of my “other” collections. As many of you know, my partner, Eric, and I collect in many categories as wide ranging as automobile license plates, post cards, toys, china and glass, furniture, clocks, art, sports cards and more. I suspect that most of you also collect something else in addition to iridescent stretch glass. At the banquet on Thursday night, we are giving you an opportunity to share an example or two from one of your other collections. In previous years, for example, Bill and Sharon Mizell shared some of their carnival glass tumblers with us; another year we had a speaker on vintage lighting. This year, we are going to let you, our members, do “show and tell” with something from your “other” collection. (IF you do not have another collection, please select a special piece of iridescent stretch glass and share it with us.)

One of my other collections is quilts. My mom is a quilter and she has made hundreds of beautiful quilts during her lifetime. Many of them are made and sold at craft or church fairs, but some of the truly special ones are carefully put away in chests and trunks or given to family members on special occasions. And, of course, there is a quilt on every bed in her home to be used on those cold winter nights in New Hampshire. I have two quilts which she made for me and one “crazy” quilt made by my grandmother.

I've always been fascinated by the process of sewing hundreds of pieces of cloth into a magnificent quilt top – truly a work of art. After we bought our house in North Carolina, we purchased an antique quilt with a design in reds and greens to be a wall hanging in our 2-story foyer. The colors were perfect to bring the reds and greens that had been used as the primary colors in the house together. This quilt is obviously the result of many hours of work by a very talented quilter. It seemed to set the tone for everything else in the house.

After that first purchase, I began to look for other quilts that had a connection to us and our new home. Today our collection includes a North Carolina lily quilt, a signature quilt from an area where some of my ancestors lived, an American Heritage quilt and many more. Most recently I wanted to add a Log Cabin quilt to the collection only to find that there are many Log Cabin designs. As a result, we have purchased several different examples for the collection. Here are a few photos of some of our quilts.



I hope you will bring one or two examples from another of your collections to share at the 2010 Convention banquet. Your fellow Stretch Glass Society members look forward to learning about your other collecting interests. Sharing a story about your other collection is easy and fun. To make sure that we have time enough for everyone, we ask that you limit your story to no more than 3 minutes – think of it as your “elevator pitch” or “ice breaker.” Thanks, in advance, for participating in YOUR banquet program this year.



Opportunity Knocks – Calling all Volunteers!

This year at the Members' Annual Business meeting held at convention, we'll be electing five new members of the Executive Board: Secretary, Treasurer, and three directors. This is a great opportunity to become involved in decisions affecting all aspects of our club's future. It's also a way to get to really bond with others who share your interest in stretch glass. The Board meets monthly (most months) by phone conference in the evening. And we have a good time while taking care of business!



STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY 36th ANNUAL CONVENTION, SHOW & SALE JULY 28, 29, 30, 2010

WEDNESDAY JULY 28:

- 1-7 pm Member Arrival, Check In, & Set Up
- 4-6pm Executive Board Meeting
- 8-10pm **Wine & Cheese Welcome Party**
Registered Convention Members draw Stampede Line-Up Numbers
- Silent Auction Bidding Begins**
- 10pm SGS Meeting Room Closed

THURSDAY JULY 29:

(Open to Public 12-5pm)

- 9-11am Doors Open
Late Arrival, Check In, Set Up,
Draw Stampede Line-up Numbers
- 11am Line-up for Stampede
- 11:15am **Stampede Begins**
- 3pm Discussion of Member Displays
- 5pm SGS Meeting Room Closed
- 7pm **2010 Banquet Buffet—**
(Members & Guests)
- 8:15pm **Share Your “Other” Collection**
- 10pm SGS Meeting Room Closed

FRIDAY July 30:

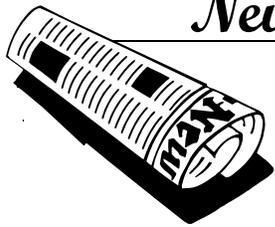
(Open to Public 10am-4pm)

- 10am Doors Open
- 11:30-1pm **Members' Annual Business Meeting & Complimentary Lunch**
- 1:30-3pm Stretch Glass “Garden of Vases”
Display Presentation
- 3:30-4pm **SGS/NFGS Live Glass Auction**
featuring Whimsies & other selections
by Fenton Art Glass Company
- 4:30pm **Silent Auction Bidding Ends**
and Raffle Drawing**
- 4:45pm SGS Meeting Room Closed to Public
Begin Packing Glass



You don't have to be at convention to volunteer. Just contact President Tim, anyone currently on the Board (see page 2), or anyone you know who's going to convention and ask them to nominate you. We'd love to have your help and get to know you!

News from the Glass World



Weston, WV— CAMPAIGN SUCCESS: THE MUSEUM IS OURS !

Match the Money—and the Museum Is Ours! was the rallying cry that launched an ambitious fund drive for the Museum of American Glass in West Virginia at the 19th annual Glass Gathering held at the Museum in Weston, West Virginia on Friday, October 23, 2009. Now 6 months later and the results from the campaign are in. Campaign co-chairs, Jeff Evans of Jeff Evans Auctions and Dean Six, Executive Director of the Museum are pleased to announce it has met and exceeded its goal in the six month long "Match The Money and The Museum is Ours" building campaign fund drive.

In October 2009, an anonymous donor offered to match, dollar for dollar, donations up to \$45,000. The \$90,000 amount would allow the Museum's current mortgage to be retired and the not-for-profit Museum would own its home free and clear of any debt. Success seemed apparent from the outset as individuals, community organizations and numerous glass collecting clubs stepped forward to donate. The Museum holds an impressive array of American-made glass, the collection of objects from the National Marble Museum, glass making tools, an extensive library of glass industry information, the American Flint Glass Workers Union archives and etc.

As of April 25, 2010, six months after the campaign began, the total raised is \$105,803. A public mortgage note burning ceremony is planned. The money raised over and above that needed to pay the mortgage will be used to earn yet another dollar for dollar match. The Museum is currently submitting a proposal to the State of West Virginia for funds to renovate and make climate controlled the 2nd floor archival storage area. These archives include (among thousands of other glass-related items) the nationally significant collection from the American Flint Glass Worker's Union.

The Museum of American Glass in West Virginia is open daily Memorial Day through Labor Day noon to 4:00pm. The balance of the year the Museum is open daily noon to 4:00pm and closed on Wednesday and Sunday. Admission is free. More information can be found at <http://wvmaq.bqlances.com/>. Questions about programs or the Museum can be directed to 304-269-5006.



National Depression Glass Association, Inc.
36th Annual Convention

Glass Show & Sale

Hosted by the Wichita Glass Gazers

Sat, July 10, 2010
10am - 5pm

Sun, July 11, 2010
11am - 4pm



Follow the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City where
"Glass is Ozzz-some"!!!

CENTURY II EXHIBITION HALL
Downtown WICHITA, KANSAS
US HWY 54 - Central Business Exit

\$8 General Admission (good both days)
\$20 Early Bird Admission Saturday, July 10, 8am - 10am

Glass Displays

Educational Seminars

Guest Authors



Information: www.NDGA.net 316.524.1553 baglassgazer@aol.com



ON **ebay**

Recent selling prices from Renée Shetlar



U.S. Glass Topaz
#314 bowl, \$149.99



Fenton Tangerine 5.5"
bowl, \$112.50



Pair of Imperial Nuart
lamp shades, \$230.49



Diamond Blue Crackle
(cobalt) 4 3/4" bowl, \$161.38



Marietta again in 2010!

July 28, 29, and 30, 2010

36th Annual SGS Convention, Show and Sale

Comfort Inn

700 Pike Street
Marietta, OH

Call 1-740-374-8190

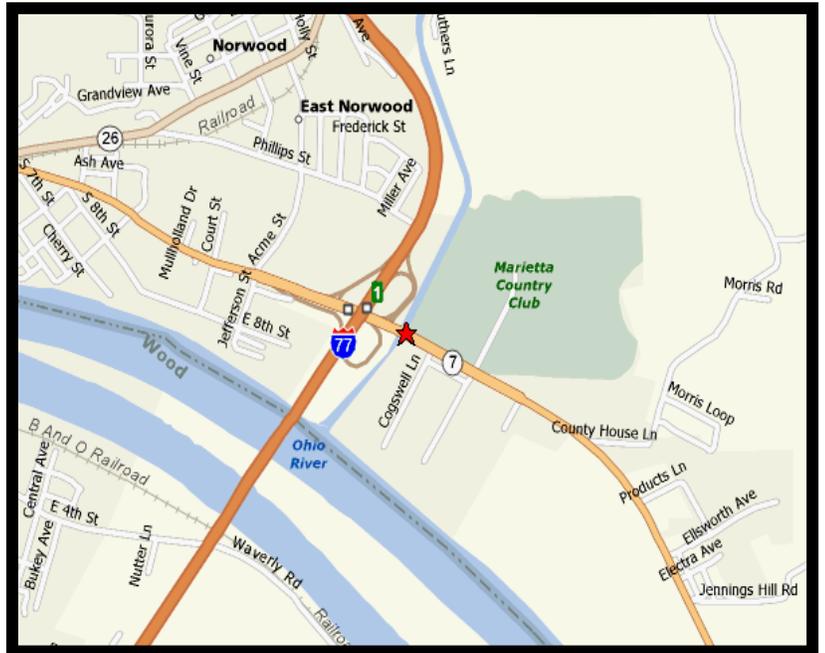
for reservations.

**Make sure to say you're with
the Stretch Glass Society group.**

Standard Guest Room Rate (for us):
\$67 (Plus Taxes)

Rooms Are Filling up Quickly,

Call Today!



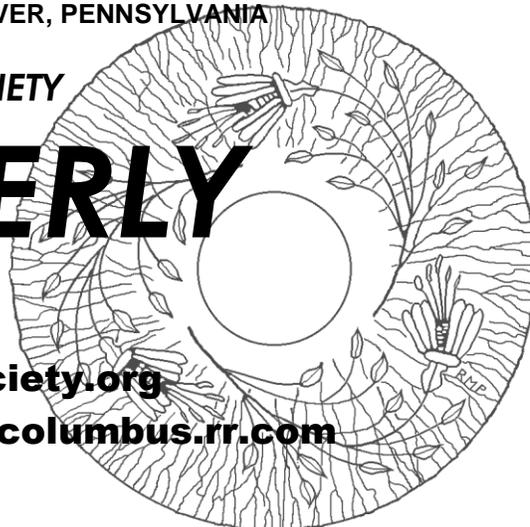
FOUNDED APRIL 21, 1974 IN DENVER, PENNSYLVANIA

THE STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY

QUARTERLY

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First Class Mail

TO:

NOTICE: The SGS Quarterly newsletter distribution schedule is: FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST and NOVEMBER.