

# Celebrating Our 90th Year!

## Fenton Art Glass

A Family Tradition  
in Fine Glassmaking  
Since 1905.

In the age of mass production, The Fenton Art Glass Company remains unique, reflecting the charm and graciousness of an earlier, gentler time. Each piece of Fenton glass begins as a fiery gob of molten glass which is then formed with pride by master craftsmen using techniques and tools that are centuries old. As Fenton Art Glass celebrates its 90th anniversary, it continues to develop new and unusual colors and treatments to keep the firm in the forefront of the handmade glass industry.

The Fenton Art Glass Company was founded in 1905 by Frank L. Fenton and his brother John, in an old glass factory building in Martins Ferry, Ohio. Here they painted decorations on glass blanks made by other firms. The Fentons found that they had trouble getting the glass they wanted when they wanted it, and soon decided to produce their own. The first glass from the Fenton factory in Williamstown, West Virginia was made on January 2, 1907.

One of the first colors produced by the new company was called Chocolate Glass, and in late 1907, Fenton began to make iridescent pressed glass. Fifty years later this glass was called Carnival Glass. Iridescent glass was the backbone of the Fenton line for the next ten years, and it helped the company become financially successful in those early years. Iridescent glass was still selling in the 1920's, but it was made in delicate pastel colors with very little pattern in the treatment called "stretch glass." High quality Carnival Glass now sells for as much as \$600 to \$4500 a piece. A recent rare piece sold for \$22,500.

Between 1948 and 1949, the top three members of Fenton management died, and brothers Frank M. Fenton, age 33, and Bill Fenton, age 25, took over as President and Vice-President of Sales respectively. The next five years were rough ones, but then milk glass began to sell beautifully all over the country. The team of Frank and Bill led the factory through significant growth for the next 30-plus years. Together they continued to develop new designs based on the flexibility and character of handmade glass. Often they have said that Fenton's success depends on crafting items that cannot be made by machine.

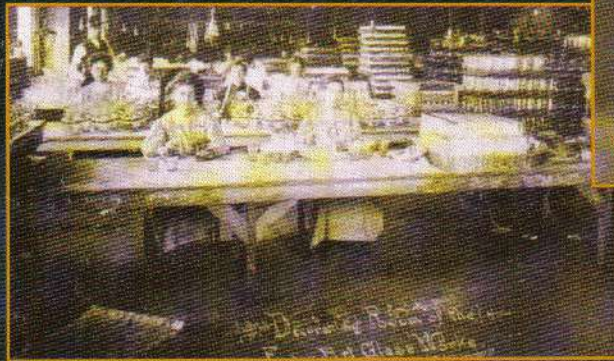
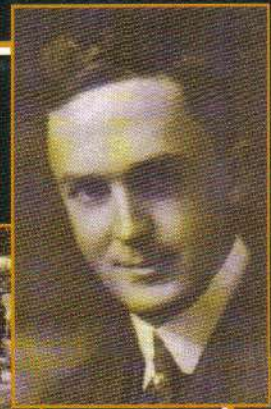
In February, 1986, the leadership of Fenton Art Glass passed to the third generation when George W. Fenton became President. Bill Fenton is Chairman of the Board and Frank is retired, but both are at work every day working in various areas of the business and advising.



The tradition of quality, craftsmanship and love of handmade glass begun in 1905 is carried on through the third and fourth-generation Fentons actively employed in the glass company or gift shop.

Pictured left to right:  
(top) Mike Fenton, Tom Fenton, George Fenton, Bill Fenton, Don Fenton and Randy Fenton. (bottom) Frank M. Fenton, Chris Fenton, Shelley Fenton, Nancy Fenton and Lynn Fenton.

Frank L. Fenton



Decorating Room  
circa 1907

Our  
90th Anniversary  
Collection . . .

Celeste  
Blue  
Stretch



F E N T O N





**FENTON**  
90th Anniversary  
Collection

*Celeste Blue Stretch*

Celeste Blue celebrates 90 years of quality craftsmanship. This exciting color was first developed in 1921 and has not been offered in the Fenton line since the mid-20's.

2767 JE  
Vase, 4 1/2"  
(\$32.50)



1137 JE  
Top Hat, 4 1/4"  
(\$49.50)

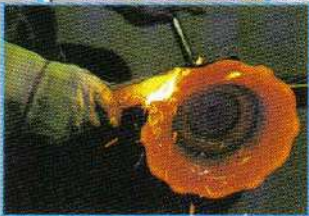


1134 KA  
Comport, 5 1/4"  
(\$32.50)



Two metallic sprays and two extra re-heating steps are required to develop Celeste Blue's textured surface. After reheating and spraying, it is reheated again and the final shape is changed by the Finisher to stretch the metallic surface into sparkling fissures to give us the "stretch treatment."

The Finisher forms the piece to its final shape using a cherry wood paddle or age old tools called "Pucellas."



2990 KA  
Centerpiece  
with Nymph,  
4 Pc., 9 1/2"  
(\$95.00)

9499KA  
Logo, Oval, 5" w.  
(\$25.00)



*Centerpiece Bowl on  
Stand with September  
Morn Nymph*

First used as a set with these three moulds in the early 1930's. The September Morn Nymph is patterned after a figure in a painting by the same name. Painted by Paul Chabas in 1912, it now stands in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It first appeared in the Fenton line in 1928 as a decorative centerpiece.



The Gatherer skillfully gathers a fiery gob of molten glass from the furnace to begin each piece.

9488 KA  
Candy Box w/  
Cover, 10 1/2"  
(\$49.50)



1136 JE  
Vase, Fan, 6"  
(\$49.50)



1142 JE  
Basket, Footed,  
7"  
(\$37.50)



2911 KA  
Candlesticks, 3"  
(\$49.50 pr.)



All prices are suggested retail



7601 KA  
Epergne, 5 Pc. Set,  
13"  
(\$185.00)



*The Epergne*

This epergne was first offered by Fenton in 1956 and was reproduced to look like the epergnes made in the 19th century.

1140 JE  
Vase w/ Cobalt  
Base, 7 1/4"  
(\$59.50)



9667 JE  
Bell, Aurora, 7"  
(\$35.00)

*The Basket Handler*

Great skill is required of the craftsmen who put handles on baskets. In very fast order, the handler attaches a glowing ribbon of glass to a piece, forms a loop and attaches the other end. He then works the glass into a graceful arche. This whole process must be done in about 30 seconds before it becomes unmovably chilled.



Each Fenton basket bears an individual "handler's mark". The handler attaches the handle with a stamp engraved with his personal mark. The design of the mark is his alone. Thus, each Fenton basket is personally signed and can always be traced back to the craftsman who created it.

9049 KA  
Tumbler,  
Lincoln Inn,  
4 1/2"  
(\$19.50)



9001 KA  
Water Set, Lincoln  
Inn, 5 Pc. Set, 7"  
(\$135.00)

1135 JE  
Family  
Signature  
Basket,  
Diamond,  
9 1/2"  
(\$75.00)



This basket is limited to sales to the Fenton dealer through 4/30/95.

*Family Signature Basket*

This special basket is inscribed with the signatures of two second generation family members; Bill Fenton (Chairman of the Board and Past President) and Frank M. Fenton (Past Chairman and President).

The mould for this basket was made circa 1926 as a Candy Box and Vase, but has never been made into a basket. The diamond interior is actually a series of small pyramids, chipped into the mould by hand.

This handpainted decoration was created by Martha Reynolds to capture the artistic spirit of the 1920's. The raised "Coralene" texture is achieved with ground up glass and adds texture and dimension to the piece. Each handpainted piece is signed by the decorating artist.





# FENTON

The Fenton Art Glass Company  
700 Elizabeth Street  
Williamstown, WV 26187  
(304) 375-6122

*Sweater with Fenton Logo*  
M - FG057, L - FG058, XL - FG059  
*T-shirt with Fenton Logo*  
L - FG064, XL - FG065  
*Sweatshirt with Fenton Logo*  
L - FG066, XL - FG067



Sweater  
(\$69.00)

*Sweater,  
Sweatshirt and  
T-shirt with the  
Fenton  
Logo*

Sweatshirt  
(\$36.00)

T-shirt  
(\$17.50)

## Fenton Glass Making Video



9928 Consumer, VHS  
25 min. (\$19.95)

FG050 In-Store Use,  
VHS - 2 hr.

## Collectors Club Information

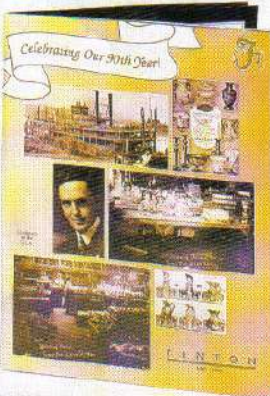
Fenton Collectors are invited to join one or both of the national organizations formed in celebration of Fenton Art Glass: The Fenton Art Glass Collector's of America (FAGCA) and the National Fenton Glass Society (NFGS).



FG005  
Collector  
Club  
Application  
(10)

Each club offers a bi-monthly newsletter to members and an annual convention held in West Virginia. Each also has local chapters established across the country.  
**Ask your Fenton dealer for more information on how to join.**

## 1995 Fenton Catalog



FG073  
Retail Catalog (\$5.00)

## The History of Fenton

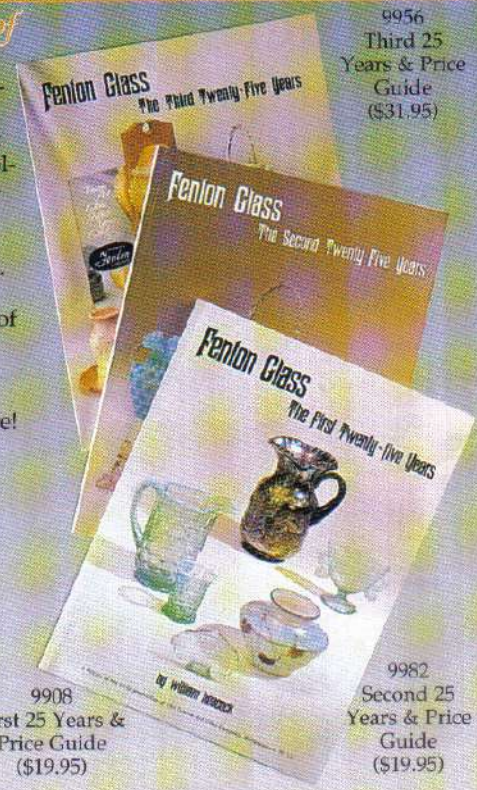
The Fenton history in words and pictures. A must for the serious collector and inspiring to the future collector. Fascinating to all.

Detailed history of the factory and Fenton family, with catalog reprints and more!

9899  
3 Book Set &  
Price Guides  
(\$65.00)

9908  
First 25 Years &  
Price Guide  
(\$19.95)

9956  
Third 25  
Years & Price  
Guide  
(\$31.95)



9982  
Second 25  
Years & Price  
Guide  
(\$19.95)