

# PORTLAND'S Rain OF GLASS, INC.

A non-profit organization formed to stimulate interest in collectible glass and to provide educational resources and events for the members and the community at large.

# **NEW LOCATION:**

## **Central Lutheran Church**

1820 Northeast 21st Avenue Portland, OR 97212 (NE 21<sup>st</sup> & Schuyler) 503-284-2331



# **NOVEMBER**

WHERE: Central Lutheran Church 1820 NE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97212 (NE 21<sup>st</sup> & Schuyler)

WHEN: Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (Library open at 6:00 p.m.)

GREETERS: Suzanne Lemon and Dick and Gyrid Towle (Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)

## SPECIAL: Annual November Mini-Auction Plus—The Holiday Craft and Food Fair

PROG's Third Annual November Mini-Auction will have many nice pieces of glass, ceramics and gifts for your bidding pleasure. Add to your collection or win a present for your holiday gift-giving!! Pictured above is an auction item donated by Carole White--a green hobnail Fenton vase. Plus—shop for the holidays at our annual Craft and Food Fair. Get out your pocketbooks to purchase wonderful items made by PROG members.

### PATTERN OF THE MONTH: Belleek's Shamrock Irish Porcelain, presented by Joi Shervey

Pictured at top is a cream jug and sugar bowl in Belleek's Shamrock pattern.

**HOSPITALITY: November's Committee listed on page 2** 

BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, November 8, 2011, 7:00 p.m. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 4-5 Palmer/Wirfs EXPO, Puyallup Fairgrounds ShowPlex, WA
- 6 Polk Flea Mkt., Rickreall
- 11-Dec.11—Pumpkin Hollow, Christmas at the Mill, 2710 Whispering Oaks Pl., Albany
- 13 Salem Collectors Market
- 13 Medford Giant Flea Market
- 20 Picc-a-dilly, Lane Co. Fairgrounds, Eugene

Every Sunday – Portland's Indoor/Outdoor Flea Mkt., 5400 N. Lombard

Visit the Portland's Rain of Glass Website for more interesting Club news: www.rainofglass.com

Mailing Address:
Portland's Rain of Glass
C/O Cindy Thomas
795 Corby St.
Woodburn, OR 97071



## **HOLIDAY CRAFT & FOOD BOUTIQUE**

If you are a crafter, sewer, baker, candy maker, artist or a creator of any sort of handmade items or food, you are welcome to join the Holiday Craft and Food Boutique at the November 15 club meeting at Central Lutheran Church.

Mavis Case is the coordinator, so please call her at 503-257-8706 to let her know if you would like to participate.

Please bring your own sacks and wrapping, and have your items priced before you arrive. Fifty percent of sales will go to PROG, and 50% to you, or to Oregon Food Bank or PROG if you wish to donate it all.

And if you're not crafty, feel free to shop to your heart's content!!

#### **HOSPITALITY**

The following members will bring food to the November meeting: Everyone is invited to bring salads or something to share at our new location this month.

Carole White - pumpkin pies Jewell Gowan - Beef Stew Barbara Dietz - Buttered Bread

Thank you!



### **CLAM CHOWDER PROIECT**

With the move to a new facility occupying our minds and efforts right now, we just have too much on our plate, so to speak!

#### IT'S TIME!!

32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL

# RAIN OF GLASS SHOW & SALE

JANUARY 28-29, 2012

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS HILLSBORO, OREGON

#### SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011

POTLUCK SUPPER 6:30 P.M. (MAIN DISH & BEVERAGES PROVIDED—PLEASE BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT) MEETING 7:00 P.M.

AT BARBARA COLEMAN'S HOUSE (THANKS TO BARBARA FOR VOLUNTEERING HER LOVELY HOME!) 2226 N.E. HANCOCK, PORTLAND PLEASE R.S.V.P.

cbessw@aol.com or 503-901-0505



# **NEW HOME FOR PROG!!**

Central Lutheran Church, 1820 N.E. 21st, Portland OR 97212

# PLEASE JOIN US THERE for the NOVEMBER BOARD & CLUB MEETINGS



Thanks to an inspired suggestion by Barbara Coleman, Central Lutheran Church will be our new meeting place!

Why: The Friendship Center was sold to the German American Society. We got our 30 days' notice on October 18, just before the club meeting. Yikes!!

How: The search committee—Jewell, Mark, Neal, Barbara and Carole—spent virtually every waking hour for the next nine days phoning, emailing and driving all over creation and back again to find a new space. Nearly every one of our first 16 candidates was very helpful and understanding of the shortness of time due to the unexpected notice, but only Central could accommodate our rolling library bookcases. Plus, they were the nicest to us, and their facility is the cleanest and most attractive and is all on one level with no stairs. We feel confident that the Board will approve and that Central Lutheran Church will be our new meeting place.

We are so happy to have found a new home so quickly. We don't know yet whether Central will become our permanent meeting place or whether we will return to the Friendship Center when it is finished. That will depend on several factors, two of which are how the Germans remodel the building and whether there will be room for our bookcases.

Everything besides the library that PROG owns will be kept in a rented storage unit. We can use Central's sound system and coffee maker, so we won't have to schlep our mic, speakers and coffee pots. Barbara Coleman has volunteered to be Tablecloth Captain and will bring the cloths to the meetings so our speakers can use them, and Mark Moore has volunteered to bring anything else we need.

Where: Central Lutheran is on N.E. 21st between Hancock and Schuyler, or for a broader view it's between Broadway and Knott, or even broader it's between Sandy Blvd. and Fremont. It is just a bit north and east of Lloyd Center and is about a mile or so west of the Friendship Center.

The <u>church</u> entrance is on Hancock but that door is locked. <u>The entrance to the meeting hall is behind the church through their small parking lot on the Schuyler Street side of the building.</u>

Parking: There is limited parking for only about 12 cars in the lot behind the church (enter from Schuyler), so regardless of how early we arrive, please let's be fair and save them for those with walking issues, the program and pattern of the month presenters and anyone who is bringing a lot of stuff to set up. We may park in the large Zeller Chapel of the Roses parking lot on the south corner of N.E. 21<sup>st</sup> & Schuyler, but only if there is no service that evening. Members will be emailed on Monday whether or not we may park there, and we will put a "PROG PARKING" sign at the Schuyler Street entrance to the lot if it's OK to park there that night. There will be a "NO PROG PARKING" sign there if it's not OK. Please do not park in the Zeller lot if the "NO PROG PARKING" sign is there because your car may be towed. Also, there is plentiful street parking both on Schuyler and 21<sup>st</sup>, and the church is on bus routes 9, 10 and 77.

Hope to see you November 15th in our new home, Central Lutheran Church!!

#### **DUNCAN and MILLER'S**



TAVERN PATTERN

#### with JANICE WALLACE

You may ask why inveterate Heisey collector Janice Wallace owns a pattern by Duncan and Miller, but there's a reason. George Duncan formed the George Duncan and Sons Glass Company in 1865 in partnership with his sons Harry and James and Augustus H. Heisey, who was married to George's daughter Susan.

John Miller joined the firm in 1874. When the factory burned in 1892, Heisey left to form his own company. George Duncan and Sons re-opened in 1893, and in 1900 they reincorporated as the Duncan and Miller Glass Company.

The company started making the Tavern pattern in 1914. It has distinctive vertical ribs with a band of horizontal grooves near the top or edge of the piece. It is very similar to Heisey's Banded Flute pattern. Tavern



was made in clear glass, or clear with gold decoration. It was produced in great numbers, and it is inexpensive to collect.



Tavern is a full line. In fact, one reason Janice chose to speak on it is that she has an example of a dinner plate. The pattern includes tableware such as a graceful water jug, a pitcher with an 18-point star in the bottom, goblets.

tumblers, plates, bowls, creamers, sugars and everything needed to set a complete table. Accessory pieces were produced including different sizes of baskets, which are the most popular pieces in the line. Thanks to Jeff Motsinger for bringing two Tavern



baskets with cuttings that he purchased from member Fern Moist.

Duncan and Miller produced handmade glass, and like so many other hand houses found they couldn't continue in the face of changing market tastes and inexpensive foreign glass. They closed shop in 1955, and some of their moulds went to the U.S. Glass Company, which formed a Duncan division and continued to produce some patterns as Duncan-Ware. Eventually they, too, went out of business.

Written by Carole Bess White Photos by Neal Skibinski

#### **CANDY DISH NIGHT**



PROG's Candy Dish Night proved to be as sweet as ever! It is one of the few contest nights we have, and 21 people rose to the challenge and brought wonderful candy dishes with lots of delicious candy to sample. Prizes of \$5.00



Glassbucks that can be used as cash for any PROG function went to Gyrid Hyde-Towle for Best Homemade Candy for her Sesame Brittle, Linda Sprau for Best Covered Candy Dish, and Jerry Linschoten and Michele

Kemp tied for Best Open Candy Dish and each received a Glassbuck.

Thanks to all the following who participated:

Mavis Case—Pink Dogwood Westmoreland Pink Satin Glass Dish

Barbara Coleman—Chinese Red Northwood Covered Candy

Susan Conroy—U.S. Glass #1902 Church Windows Dish from her Great Grandmother

Richard Cox—Covered Dish with Bird on Lid, Rigaree and Controlled Bubbles

Diane Foster—Fostoria Baroque Dish with Navarre Etch

Sandra James—Clear and Satin Glass Covered Candy, possibly Imperial

DeDe Joslin—Wexford Covered Candy

Rose Mary Joslin—Chicken

Michelle Kemp—Westmoreland Pink Comport

Jerry Linschoten—Greentown Chocolate Glass Comport

Sandra Martin—Ebony Fenton Basket and Tangerine Viking 3-Part Epic Covered Dish

Edna McLean—Purple Viking Diamond Optic Covered Candy

Virginia Ranken—Cut Glass Dish c.1900-1910

Doreen Smith—Blue-Green Comport, possibly Blenko

Dave Sprau—Pink Pressed One-Handled Nappy c.1910-1920

Linda Sprau—Green Indiana Diamond Point Covered Candy

Kirsten Stensland—Ball-Footed Cocktail Glass

Gyrid Hyde-Towle—Pink Tiffin Covered Candy on New Martinsville Plate

Margie Tripler—Imperial by Lenox One-Handled Nappy

Janice Wallace—Hawthorne Heisey Tudor Bonbon

Karen Young—Comport







Photos by Neal Skibinski

# Dateline BELLEEK, NORTHERN IRELAND

In September of this year I was fortunate enough to

spend 3 ½ weeks in England and Ireland. One of the highlights of the Irish trip was touring the Belleek Pottery in Belleek, Northern Ireland. Many of us know Belleek for its impossiblythin egg-shell-like bowls from the "green mark and black mark" eras --roughly 1920s through 1950s (with interruptions). But the company has produced a wide variety of other parian china, porcelain, and earthenware products ever since the present factory was built in



In fact, they are still going strong -employing nearly 600 people in their Belleek
plant and in their Donegal China Co. just
across the border in County Donegal, Republic
of Ireland. The Visitor's Center in the Belleek
factory hosts nearly 150,000 people a year.
Knowledgeable tour guides lead tours of the
working plant during weekdays.

Some of the new products created today are from the contemporary "Belleek Living" series. Others are reissues from older – mostly Victorian -- molds. I learned that all molds were (and still are) made with a duplicate "second master", to use if the original mold ever loses its crispness. I also learned that Belleek's unique luminescence comes from adding a considerable amount of powdered frit (glass) to the final glaze. At the end of the tour there was an opportunity for the tour-goers to break imperfect pieces of Belleek ware. The company has always had a policy of never

issuing "seconds". If the piece is not perfect, it is left in a special booth for the tour go-er to

smash to pieces (this was actually a lot of fun).

It was astounding to me to see how much of the work being done at the factory was handmade -- all being done by skilled artisans. The basketweave designs were especially amazing, each worker being responsible for threading hundreds



of strands of clay together for each bowl. Second place in my amazement scale were the artisans who crafted the roses applied to vases and bowls. Some roses contained up to sixty petals! And of course, there were also the painters and other workers skilled to work with the evolving clay product.



At this point you may be asking yourselves how Belleek can stay in business and prosper while America's legacy potteries have all but disappeared? I have no answer for that. My grandmother was a painter at the Hull Pottery in Ohio all her life until they closed in

1985. Seeing the Belleek Pottery in operation reminded me so much of going to the Hull Pottery with my grandmother in the 1950s. Today, without the pottery, Crooksville, Ohio is little more than a ghost-town. By contrast, the town of Belleek, Northern Ireland is prosperous and growing.



The Belleek company is today owned by an Irishimmigrant American doctor who is originally from the Belleek area. I was told on the tour that 65% of Belleek's products are exported to America. I'm sure an economist (and certainly a politician) could give me a zillion reasons

why America's potteries cannot compete in the global marketplace. And yet when all is said and done, Belleek is doing just that and America is not. There are many reasons to visit Ireland, but one of the most compelling is to see – in some ways -- how America used to be. Lets hope – at least in the field of potteries – that they never catch up to what we've become.

Article and Photos by Jack Bookwalter







Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc. c/o Cindy Thomas 795 Corby Street Woodburn, Oregon 97071



#### Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.

- Calendar of Events
- Membership Information
- Rain of Glass Show and Sale
- Duncan and Miller's Tavern Pattern
  - Candy Dish NightBelleek

# NOTE NEW MEETING LOCATION! Address and Map Inside