

# 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.



## APRIL

**WHERE:** Friendship Masonic Center  
5626 NE Alameda Street  
Portland, Oregon 97213  
N.E. 57<sup>th</sup> & Sandy



**WHEN:** Tuesday,  
April 15, 2008,  
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
(Library open at 6:00 p.m.)

**GREETERS:** Ed Martin and Sandra Martin  
(Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)

**SPEAKERS:** Barbara Coleman & Carole White,  
On "Printed Tablecloths of the 30s, 40s and 50s."

*Learn about some famous and not so famous manufacturers of printed tablecloths—including Wilendur, Leacock, Simtex, Startex, California Hand Prints, Broderie, Indian Head Mills and more.*

*(Pictured at top is a Leacock cloth, "Della Robia.")*

*Pictured above is the famous "Royal Rose," by Wilendur.)*

**PATTERN OF THE MONTH: "Rib Optic"—  
Manufactured by**

**Fenton Glass Company,  
Presented by Dan Haake**

*Pictured at left is a Fenton Rib Optic water jug.*

**HOSPITALITY:** April Committee  
listed on page 2



**BOARD MEETING:** Tuesday, April 8, 2008,  
At the Friendship Masonic Center, 7:00 p.m.  
**ALL MEMBERS WELCOME**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### APRIL

5 – Umpqua Flea Market,  
Roseburg

6 – Picc-A-Dilly Flea Market,  
Eugene

6 – Polk Flea Market

13 – Medford Giant Flea Market

19-20 – C&K Productions Glass  
Show & Sale, Kent, WA

18 – Webfooters Postcard Club  
Auction, Rodeway Inn, Portland

19-20 – Webfooters Postcard  
Show and Sale, Portland

20 – Rose City Collectors Market

27 – Salem Collectors Market

#### MAY

10 – Umpqua Flea Market,  
Roseburg

29, 30, 31 – *Portland's Rain of  
Glass' 2008 Glass  
Collector's Convention,  
Rodeway Inn, Portland*

Visit the Portland's Rain of  
Glass Website for more  
interesting Club news:

[www.rainofglass.com](http://www.rainofglass.com)

Mailing Address:

Portland's Rain of Glass  
C/O Friendship Masonic  
Center, 5626 N.E. Alameda  
Street, Portland, OR, 97213

# JANUARY 2008 SHOW & SALE A FINANCIAL SUCCESS!

Thanks to the hard work of our members and dealers, the Rain of Glass January 2008 Show & Sale was a financial success, netting more than \$2800 for our treasury. The Show & Sale is our main fundraiser of the year, and proceeds go to fund our meetings, library and educational outreaches.



Photo by Barbara Coleman

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## CONVENTION AUCTION Donations Needed

The auction now includes  
Antiques & Collectibles,  
American & Foreign

Clean, undamaged items only,  
such as  
Glass, Pottery, China, Silver,  
Books (A&C), and Furniture

Also General Merchandise,  
Gift Certificates, etc.

Thank you,  
**Bob Carlson**  
503-238-4327  
robertpcarlson@comcast.net

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*In case of severe weather,  
please call Carole White's cell number,  
503-901-0505 for updated information.*

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

The Hospitality Committee for April includes Sandra Millius, Carol Surrency, Mary Ann Spect, Kirsten Stensland, Diana Jones, and Sally Cole. These people will furnish refreshments and help Chairpeople Michele and John Kemp with set-up and clean-up. If you have questions call Michele at (503-649-5823) or E-mail: mj Kemp1@verizon.net

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## OREGON CULTURAL TRUST

At our March General Meeting Ms. Carol Pelton of the Oregon Cultural Trust addressed the club on the workings and benefits of the Trust. She explained that the Trust seeks to establish a permanent endowment for culture in the State that will sustain it through economically challenging times as well as more prosperous times. Last year PROG became a recognized Oregon Cultural Organization which means we are now eligible to apply for project grants through the Trust. Also, anyone who makes a donation to PROG, and also a like donation to the Trust, is eligible for a substantial tax credit. These credits vary by tax bracket but all are extremely generous. Please consult your tax advisor for precise details. And please consider a donation to PROG and the Oregon Cultural Trust in your 2008 tax strategy.

*by Jack Bookwalter*

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## LIBRARY NEWS

We're planning to do a book order in April and want to let everyone know so they can think about books they might want to get.

We'll be ordering from Collector Books and, if we have enough interest, L W Books (they require 20 books to get the discount.) People can check online for book listings and descriptions--www.collectorbooks.com and www.lwbooks.com

The discount to members will be 20% off listed price and they will have to pay shipping.

I will take any orders at the April meeting and I must have their payment at that time. Checks should be made to me, Kate Fuller.

Thanks so much, Kate

## MARCH MEETING TOPIC:



### Early American Pattern Glass Celery Vases & Trays:

#### The Celery Plant & Its Uses

The celery plant is believed to have originated in the Mediterranean area. The first recorded mention is in the 5th century in Chinese writings and then in the 9th century in an Italian poem. Early uses for the plant were strictly medicinal -- right up into the 16th century, when it was discovered that it could be used for flavorings in food. By the mid 17th century celery leaves and inner stalks were eaten with an oil dressing as a winter-time treat!

Celery is not easily cultivated. Its early cultivation required much hand labor, so its food use was restricted to the tables of the wealthy. Colonists brought the plant to America where four varieties were flourishing by the early 19th century. Through much of that century, celery was still expensive and so it continued to be served by wealthy only!



#### Celery Holders: Vases and Trays

Early celery holders were vase forms. The stalks were placed in a holder (6" or taller) with cold water to keep them fresh at the table. Throughout the 19th century the vase forms were the most popular type of holder. Virtually every glass house in America made celery holders. They were made in art glass, in engraved and blown flint glass, in cut glass -- and during the last quarter of the 19th century they began to proliferate in pattern glass! By late in the century, celery was being more widely cultivated and so the tables of the middle class now sported a celery vase, too!

Bowls of the vases are 6" and taller. Vases come in flat, footed and stemmed varieties. The rim opening is generally 3 1/2" to 4." Trays were also used to hold celery. Trays are typically 10" to 12" in length. Trays became more prevalent after 1890. Change in fashion as well as new recipes for use made trays more popular into the 20th century. Manufacturers continued to make celery trays of glass throughout the 20th century. A 20th century innovation was to make the celery a part of a relish tray.

Several members brought examples of celery vases and trays from their own collections. The oldest was a flint glass beauty from the 1830's from Carol Surrency's collection. Many beautiful EAPG examples were shown. And, numbers of trays from 20th century glass makers were displayed, as well. What a wonderful variety of beautiful vases and trays! Thank you to every one who so generously shared his or her treasures!

*written and presented by Sandra Millius  
with assistance from Jeff Motsinger*



## HISTORIC EXHIBIT at the ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES SHOW

Portland's Rain of Glass was invited by Palmer Wirfs to do the historic exhibit at the Antiques & Collectibles Show & Sale at the Portland Expo Center on March 1 and 2, 2008. It is a tremendous honor to have been asked, and PROG members rose to the occasion, mounting one of the most comprehensive displays in our history.

The purposes of the exhibit were to provide glass education, to show the variety of our members' interests, and to attract new members, May convention attendees and January show-goers.

The theme was "**Glass: Practical Beauty**," and it was in the form of six 6' x 6' standing showcases. Our displays were grouped by era and included:

**Victorian and Early 20th Century:** American Brilliant Cut Glass, Art Glass, Carnival Glass, Early American Pattern Glass, Heisey's Emerald Glass, Ruby-Stained Souvenirs of Oaks Park, Stretch Glass and Victorian Art Glass

**Depression Era—1970's:** Akro Agate Children's Dishes, Federal Clear Manhattan, Fostoria Amber Vesper, Fostoria Blue Royal, Fostoria Topaz Trojan, Jeannette Floragold, Jeannette Pink & Green Doric American Glass Variety: Bed, Bath and Vanity Glass and Collectibles, Candy Jars, Glass Baskets and Art Deco Chocolate Boxes, Collectible Lamps Figural Ashtrays and Cigarette Vases, Ice Buckets, Kitchen Glass and Collectibles, Soda Fountain Glass and Collectibles, and Tiffin's Decorated Black Satin Glass

**International Glass Variety:** British Art Deco Glass by Bagley and Czecho-Slovakian Glass

The exhibit also included a Glass Manufacturing Timeline, glassmaking tools and a pictorial display of How Glass Was Made. Carole Bess White curated the exhibit, Dennis Headrick did the "How Glass Was Made" display, and many

members shared their wonderful collections: Jack Bookwalter, Al & Carol Carder, Barbara Coleman, Dennis Headrick, Diana Jones, Ed & Sandra Martin, Ron & Donna Miller, Mark Moore, Kirsten Stensland and Carole Bess White.

Part of the fun of the exhibit was hosting it and talking about glass and PROG. Hosts included: Jack Bookwalter, Al Carder, Barbara Coleman, Patricia Day, Dan & Delene Haake, Dennis Headrick, Sonja Johnston, Diana Jones, Ed Martin, Ron Miller, Mark Moore, Neal Skibinski, Kirsten Stensland, Cindy Tennyson, Carole Bess White and Karen Young.

Special thanks to Jack Bookwalter for providing main transport for the displays, and to Jack, Diana Jones, Neal Skibinski and Michael Kolibaba for packing and loading in and out. Neal took wonderful photos of all the displays, and these are on the website, [www.rainofglass.com](http://www.rainofglass.com). Neal also took the publicity photos for the exhibit, which appeared in the Palmer Wirfs newspaper and TV ads, and were featured on the hanging banners that Palmer Wirfs provided. Plus, Neal was our spokesperson when Channel 8 came to do a feature on the Show for their Sunday newscasts.

The exhibit was a success in every way, but especially in fulfilling our educational mandate. The show attendees had a lot of questions about the club and glass collecting, as well as compliments about the displays. In fact, about the only negative comments were that nothing was for sale!

We were thrilled to have been selected and gladly did the exhibit for love of PROG and glass collecting, but there was a cherry on top of the sundae in the form of a completely unexpected and generous donation of \$500 to PROG from Palmer Wirfs.

Thanks to all who contributed their time and collections to the exhibit. PROG is an amazing membership organization with enthusiastic participation in all our events, and it is appreciated!

*by Carole Bess White*



# AUCTION EYE CANDY

## DON'T MISS OUT! GREAT AUCTION ITEMS!

Some great surprises are in store for those who attend this year's PROG 2008 Convention Auction. Join us May 30, 2008, for the **Silent Auction, 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.**, the **Oral Auction Preview, 5-7 p.m.** and the **Oral Auction, 7-9 p.m.** Auction admission is free. We'll be at the Rodeway Inn, 9727 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland, Oregon. Be there!



Thanks go to Neal Skibinski for photographing the glass, Bob Carlson for staging the glass for the photos and Barbara Coleman for setting up this page.

## Convention 2008: "Decades of Glass"

I am excited by great bargains! How about you? Well, I have one you won't want to miss out on! That is our 2008 Annual Convention! Here's some of what makes this such a great bargain!

**Annual Auction:** Not just glass, either! There will be goodies, from services to baskets of yummys, to tickets to special events. From books to furniture, it will all be there waiting for you on Friday evening May 30th! There will be a silent auction followed by an oral auction. Our auctioneer, Al Carder, makes spending money just plain fun! No charge for this event -- even if you can't come to the convention seminars, you can come to the auction (and/or the auction with the dinner that precedes it).

**Seminars:** Over the two days, there are topics and speakers sure to delight, including: Dazzling American Brilliant Cut Glass by Wilbur Bluhm; Exuberant Blenko Designs by "Blenko" Bill Agle; Fabulous Glass Jewelry by Marcia "Sparkles" Brown; Marbles - Not Just for Kids by Dean Six; Art Deco Glass British Style --by Jack Bookwalter ;Depression Era Blues & Other Hues by Carole White, Bob Carlson, and Jewell Gowan. Great speakers on interesting topics (come hear them all or just one or two!)

**Glass Displays:** All interpretations of our theme "Decades of Glass" are illustrative of our seminar topics. These lovely displays can be viewed throughout the convention. If you want to participate, you can bring an item or two for a specific display. Or, you can arrange your own half or whole table! Jack Bookwalter is taking reservations.

**Author's Fair:** This will feature books for sale and articles written by our speakers. They will be able to sign their works for you. And, there will be other materials there to peruse and to take home.

**Good Food & Refreshments:** Two delightful lunches -- Friday & Saturday, nice dinner on Friday and the Saturday Evening Banquet. Meals are catered. There is no restaurant at the Inn. However, there is a delightful coffee shop - Sacred Grounds - on premises. There is no bar on premises. For those who enjoy wine (or beer) with dinner, we will have a no-host bar available.

Refreshments will be on tap in the "Green Room" adjacent to the large meeting room. Carole White is organizing the Hospitality Lounge and will welcome assistance! Typically, the Hospitality room is open during registration, between sessions and

before evening meals. It is a great place to hang out, enjoy a cup of coffee and visit!

You can also join in on Thursday evening (at 6:00 ) for the convention annual kick-off event -- The Get Acquainted Dinner, also to be held at the Rodeway/Quality Inn. The dinner has traditionally been an informal occasion to meet speakers and other conventioners! This year we have invited one of our speakers to deliver the keynote address. Dean Six has been asked to speak about the prestigious West Virginia Museum of Glass. This event is billed separately -- see the registration form for all ala carte pricing.

So, is this a great bargain? You bet! As a PROG member, you can have all of this for \$105 (includes member discount and early bird) Or, you can select from the menu: individual speakers \$10 each session or Friday Book Fair, Dinner and Auction or the Saturday Banquet. You can come for both days or one or the other. You can come to the Thursday Get Acquainted Dinner without attending any other of the convention events. Such choices!

If you want to stay, the Inn has reserved a block of rooms for PROG. Just mention that you want a room in the Portland Rain of Glass Convention group of rooms. **PLEASE NOTE; THE CORRECT PHONE NUMBER FOR THE INN IS 503.255.1404.** The Rodeway Quality Inn is listed as the Rodeway/Quality Inn at the Airport. It is on Sandy Boulevard at NE 97th -- at the I - 205 junction. It is adjacent to Park Rose and is close to the NE Hollywood District. The Hollywood District has antique malls and retro shops all within walking distance of each other!

We hope that you will be able to join us this May for our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention -- Decades of Glass! For more information, please call me at 503.282.3838 or email at sandramillius@comcast.net. You may also view auction items and download registration forms at our website [www.rainof-glass.org](http://www.rainof-glass.org). If you would like to share transportation, let me know and I will see if we can match you up with someone from your area!

*submitted by Sandra Millius, Convention Chairman*



# Convention 2008 “Decades of Glass” SEMINAR SPEAKERS

**Dean Six** will be joining us for the second time! He is our keynote speaker on Thursday and will be presenting a seminar on hand made and machine made American marbles. How Fun!

Dean has a doctorate degree in Jurisprudence from West Virginia University where he earned his bachelor's degree in History and has done post graduate work. He has been an antiques' dealer since 1971 -- his specialty is glass!

Currently, he is publications and special projects coordinator with Replacements Limited.

Much of his professional life has been devoted to history and preservation.

He is a co-founder of both the Ritchie County (WVA) Historical Society and the renowned West Virginia Museum of American Glass . He also Chairs the West Virginia Glass Gathering Conference -- and has done so since 1992.

He has been a contributor to numerous periodicals including The Daze, Glass Collectors Digest, All About Glass and others. He is also editor-in-chief for Silver Magazine, an international publication.

Among the books he has co-authored are: The Arts & Crafts Movement, Franciscan: An American Dinnerware Tradition, LG Wright Glass, Black Glass Encyclopedia, American Machine Made Marbles and Collectible American Marbles.

He has authored: West Virginia Glass Between the World Wars, Viking Glass and Lotus Glass.

He has curated an exhibit on glass for children that traveled several regional museums in 1989-00. He has curated nearly a dozen exhibits for the West Virginia Museum of American Glass -- as well as the permanent collection there.

He has appeared in several documentaries and was the producer for an award winning documentary on hand made marbles. He is often called upon for interviews in all of the media due to his glass expertise. He belongs to a number of local and national glass clubs and organizations. He has been a keynote speaker at the National Glass Conventions

of Cambridge, Fenton, Fry, Phoenix and Consolidated, Morgantown Akro Agate, Art Glass Salt Shakers, Tiffin, Stretch, Early American Pattern Glass as well as other glass conventions.

We are most fortunate to welcome Dean to our convention this year!

## **Marcia “Sparkles” Brown**

Marcia Brown is an acknowledged antique and vintage jewelry author, lecturer, and has an extensive private collection of over 11,000 costume jewelry pieces. Her hobby became her vocation and earned her the professional name of “Sparkles”.

A published author of five books on costume jewelry: “Unsigned Beauties of Costume Jewelry”, “Signed Beauties of Costume Jewelry”, “Signed Beauties of Costume Jewelry Volume II”, “Coro Jewelry”, and “Rhinestone Jewelry: Figural, Animal and Whimsicals”.

Her credits include writing and hosting seven of the Hidden Treasure videos for Venture Entertainment Group of Sherman Oaks, California.

For over nine years she has been the jewelry appraiser for the California Calendar Shows, the Oregon Palmer Wirf Shows and the Southern Oregon Antiques & Collectible Shows.

She serves as the costume jewelry advisor for the annual “Schroeder’s Antiques Price Guide”, the “Garage Sale and Flea Market Annual”, and the “Maloney’s Resource Directory”. Collector Books Publisher of Kentucky has called upon her expertise to assist in jewelry pricing updating on other books.

For over fifteen years she has been a board member of the Southern Oregon Antiques and Collectibles Club. And is currently show promoter of their semi-annual events. An active member of the international Vintage Fashion and Costume Jewelry Club for fourteen years, she has contributed many articles to their publication and served as lecturer at their Rhode Island conventions.

Marcia will speak on Saturday afternoon -- as a fitting lead in to our gala Banquet. We are very pleased to have our Southern Oregon neighbor as our guest & speaker!

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Friendship Masonic Center

5626 N.E. Alameda

Portland, OR 97213



## CALL FOR DISPLAYS AT CONVENTION (RALLY)

The theme for this year's Glass Convention is "DECADES OF GLASS". Do you have a display that can be identified with a particular decade, or a definite period of glass such as pre-World War I (ie, EAPG, Carnival, etc), or 1920s-1930s (depression, elegant, etc), or post World War II (ie. modern, milk glass, murano, etc)? We are seeking displays of 6' tables, or 1/2 tables (ie. 3'), OR perhaps just one or a few pieces to place on the "Decades" Club Tables? Also seeking displays (of any size) to go with speakers topics of JEWELRY and MARBLES (or glass "toys" of any kind). Please contact Jack Bookwalter if you would like to display this year. [jackbookwalter@yahoo.com](mailto:jackbookwalter@yahoo.com) 503-287-6929.

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## ❖ INSIDE ❖

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

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- ◆ Celery Vases and Trays
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