**JULY 2015** 



# 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.



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

WHEN: Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

GREETERS: Susan Conroy and TBA (Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)

# PROGRAM:

It's time for the annual Portland's Rain of Glass picnic potluck. Bring a side dish, salad, dessert or appetizer. PROG will provide meat and beverages. Paper plates and plastic utensils provided. Bring your own place settings if you wish. Set up begins at 6:00 p.m. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

**REMEMBER THE FOOD DRIVE—BRING CANNED OR BOXED FOOD ITEMS FOR NEEDY FAMILIES!** The potluck will be held upstairs this year—no need to use the elevator!

### SPECIAL DISPLAY: "ROSALENE," Made by Fenton Glass Company, Displayed by Elmer Heffner

Elmer Heffner will display his collection of Fenton Glass Company's "Rosalene," a pink opaque glass with white swirls. Rosalene was first introduced in 1976 and made in a variety of interesting pieces. Pictured above is a Rosalene vase. At left is an epergne.

> BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, July 14, 2015, 7:00 p.m. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

### UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY

4 – Old Stuff on Main Street, Downtown Silverton

5 – Polk Flea Market, Rickreall

10-12 – Christine Palmer Portland EXPO, Portland EXPO Center, 2060 N Marine Dr., Portland

17-18 – Sisters Antiques in the Parks, Sisters Creekside Park, Sisters

19 – Medford Giant Flea Market, Medford Armory

25-26 – Estate, Antiques & Collectibles Auction, 7650 Spring Valley Rd. NW, Salem

Every Sunday—Portland's Indoor/Outdoor Flea Market, 5400 N Lombard, Portland, (one block west of Portsmouth on Lombard)

2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend – Old Mill at Yamhill Flea Market, 140 W. Main St., Yamhill, March-December

Every Saturday & Sunday (May-October) Bull Mt. Flea Market, Tigard

Visit the Portland's Rain of Glass website:

www.rainofglass.com or see us on FACEBOOK Mailing Address: Portland's Rain of Glass C/O Ed Martin, 12764 SE Nixon Ave., Milwaukie, OR. 97222.



# SAVE THE DATES!!



PROG'S ANNUAL INDOOR POTLUCK PICNIC TUESDAY, JULY 2I SETUP 6:00 P.M. \* EAT 6:30 P.M. AT CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MEAT & BEVERAGES FURNISHED PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH, SALAD OR DESSERT TO SHARE



HOT FUN IN THE SUMMERTIME! SUMMER PICNIC IN WARREN, OREGON (HWY 30 BETWEEN SCAPPOOSE & ST. HELENS) AT DAVE & LINDA SPRAU'S POTLUCK PICNIC LUNCH & ANTIQUE SHOPPING IN THE AREA SATURDAY AUGUST 15, 2015 MORE DETAILS IN THIS NEWSLETTER!



### YOU CAN HELP PROG EARN DONATIONS JUST BY SHOPPING WITH YOUR FRED MEYER REWARDS CARD!

Fred Meyer donates \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Portland's Rain of Glass at

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

- You can search for us by name, Portland's Rain of Glass, or by our non-profit number, 85577.
- Then, every time you shop at Fred Meyer and use your Rewards Card, you will help PROG earn a donation from Fred Meyer at no cost to you!
- You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points and Rebates just as you do today.
- If you don't have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

# ANNUAL SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

The need for food doesn't end with the holidays, so we are once again having our summer food drive. Please bring donations of food in cans or paper/cardboard packages (no glass or perishable items, please) to the July meeting. (Or to any meeting as Central Lutheran has a permanent food donation bin.)







### **VELMA HEFFNER**

It is with sadness that we note the passing of longtime PROG member Velma Heffner, wife of Elmer Heffner. The Heffners joined PROG in 1992.

Velma and Elmer are pictured at the 2010 Rain of Glass Sale with dealer Carrie Domitz.

In keeping with our tradition, a book will be added to our library in Velma's name.

# **BOARD ELECTION RESULTS**

Four members were elected or reelected to the board: Susan Conroy, Susan Fournier, Ed Martin and Carole Bess White. As per PROG's bylaws, the board will elect officers at the July meeting. Ed Martin has stepped down as president but will still serve on the board. We thank him for his years as president. He has done a lot for the club, and we do appreciate it.



### All Memberships Are Due IS MY MEMBERSHIP DUE?

If you did not pay your dues in May or June, the answer is YES, your membership is due.

If you are not sure whether or not you have paid, just call Joi Shervey at 503-661-6777.

Single Membership is \$30. Dual Membership is \$40.

Make out your checks to "**Portland's Rain Of Glass**" or "P.R.O.G." and mail them to Joi Shervey 654 SW Bella Vista Place

Gresham, Oregon 97080-6526

# PAY WHAT YOU WILL SALE, PART II



Thanks to Joi & Paul Shervey for storing the boxes of donated items from Deanna Stevenson's estate sale, and bringing them to the June meeting. They will bring the remainder to the July meeting for your buying pleasure, and anyone who wants to donate their own unwanted items to the sale is welcome to do so. Thanks also to Suzanne Lemon for volunteering to run the sale both times. The auction committee will sort the

items, and the nicer things will go to the November auction.

Central Lutheran is not holding their rummage sale this year, so unsold items will be donated to Albertina's Closet (the thrift store of Albertina Kerr) or to other charities.

#### LIGHT, COLOR & GLASS WITH DAVE SPRAU

Throughout history, glass has been necessary for optic advances because we are able to see things we could not without it. Glass helps us see farther and better. Concrete and glass both come from sand, and large castings of either glass or concrete require extra care during the cooling of hardening process.

One of the oldest innovations in the science of optics is eyeglasses. The first eyeglasses were made in Italy in 1286, and only monks and scholars were permitted to have them.

Camera makers were among the early developers of optic glass, such as the fisheye lens. Color lenses were used to improve faded photos, but now we do it with PhotoShop. A green lens will turn the yellow parts of a faded photo black.

Without glass there would have been no astronomy.

Glass colors are arrived at through minerals being added to the batch. For example, manganese results in purple; copper results in blue; chromium results in green; gold results in red; etc. True red comes only from gold.

A red object absorbs all colors from light except red. For example, red bounces off and back to our eyes; because a red ray of light or image is thus reflected, we see it as red. It is the same for all colors.

The Fresnel lens was invented about the time of the French Revolution by Augustin-Jean Fresnel. It is a thinner lens with a pattern of ridges that magnify the light, so, for instance, a lighthouse can send its beam for 30 miles. Railroads use colored Fresnel lenses in their signals. In about 1900, early railroad signals had semaphore blades and lights that couldn't be seen well at night. Early railroad and highway signals used kerosene lamps that gave off a yellowish light, so a lens of teal was used, and the yellowish flame through the teal glass gave a "true green" signal light.

In 1905 and later a double system of two Fresnel lenses eventually projected up to 4000 feet. Railroad and highway signals were the first users of colored lenses. Red was chosen to indicate "stop" because it can be seen the greatest distance, then orange, yellow, green, blue and violet.

The red light is on the bottom of a railroad signal and on the top of a traffic or highway signal. A highway signal uses a parabolic reflector instead of a Fresnel lens.

But this is all old technology. Today we use light-emitting diodes encased in glass.

Carole Bess White



#### PIGSKIN GLASS WITH DIANE FOSTER

Pigskin glass is exactly that—glass that has a backing of pig skin. Diane inherited her first piece in 2005 and did not know what it was. At the time, very little information was available, although now it is possible to find it on the Web.

The glass originated in Mexico in the 1960's and remained popular there for about 20 years. It is made by placing a piece of pigskin in a mold, covering it with foil and adding water-based colors, then topping it with a piece of window glass. It is then fired in a kiln, which causes the colors to make their distinctive patterns and the glass to slump into shapes. It is meant for décor, not food service.

Canadian George Hill saw the glass in Mexico and brought home the process to Canada, where he sold it under his business name of Mayfair, but the distributor named it Seetusee. It was sold from 1965 to 1985. Each piece has the letter "M" on the back. His company made 35 different shapes and sold to Hong Kong, Alaska, United States, New Zealand, Australia and the British Isles. The Mexican pieces were sold to tourists.

Mexican pigskin glass has an orange back; Seetusee has gold. Diane has found pieces marked "Acapulco" as well. Some pieces have a hanging hook or a little string hanger on the back.

Seetusee pieces are priced from \$9 to \$90, but Diane usually finds them from \$8 to \$12 at thrift shops. -Carole Bess White









Photos by Neal Skibinski - June PROG meeting

Pigskin Glass continued







Photo by Neal Skibinski- June PROG meeting

Door Prize of \$5.00 Glassbuck—Carole Bess White Fenton Hobnail Basket—Mary Ann Specht Hand Painted Bavarian Plate—Dianne Anderson Teapot, Cream & Sugar—Jan Baxter, who gave it to Ginny David Fenton Silver Crest Comport—Jan Baxter Duncan Miller Canterbury Cream & Sugar on Tray—Edna McLean Glass Basket—Joi Shervey





Randy & Ginny David—a Victorian bowl with enamel decoration, probably Central European.

Diane Foster—souvenirs from her recent trip to Paris, including a c. 1910 biscuit barrel, probably of German origin; a vase, probably Bohemian, with enamel decoration; a lady-form perfume bottle, probably contemporary.

Kate Fuller—a satin glass vase, probably mid-to-late-20<sup>th</sup> century Scandinavian.

Jerry Linschoten—a Northwood oil bottle in Klondike blue with original stopper.

Jackie Searles—a lead crystal goblet; a pressed lead glass goblet, c. 1970s; a cream pitcher that looks like the udders on a cow when filled with milk; a cut glass comport, 1920s, probably Hawkes or Sinclair

WE'LL EAT. . . WE'LL TALK. . . WE'LL SHOP AT PROG'S ANNUAL



One mile **west** of Highway 30 in St. Helens, Oregon. If you are coming south, turn **right**, and if coming north turn **left**, at stop light intersection at Safeway Store (Gable Road) in St Helens. Continue one mile on Gable [it becomes Bachelor Flats Road as you continue] until you get to a four-way-stop; turn left at that stop, proceed two-tenths mile until you reach another stop sign at left turn to Ross Road, turn left onto Ross, go four-tenths mile to Keliher, and turn right. (See star below) We are the third house on your right on Keliher. Wide asphalt driveway and garden with very big fence.



Please bring a potluck dish to share; beverages, dishes and silverware will be provided. We will set out our food at the Sprau's house at noon and eat at 12:30. The Spraus have contacted area antique shops and will have discount coupons to some of them. Shop before or after lunch.

Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.

♦INSIDE ♦

Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc. • Summer Picnic • Pigskins in Glass Light Color & Glass • Membership Dues are Due!





Photo by Neal Skibinski June PROG meeting