

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.

OCTOBER

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

WHEN: Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Library Open at 6:00)

GREETERS: Suzanne Lemon and Mary Ann Specht (Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)



PROGRAM:

October is the month for Candy Dish Night. Bring your favorite candy dish and fill it with candy to share. Prizes for best open glass candy dish, best covered glass candy dish and best homemade candy! Candy dishes must be glass to participate and must be filled with candy, whether purchased or homemade, to be on the table. At top is a 1950's Hazel Atlas witch candy jar. Above is an orange Viking covered candy dish.

PATTERN OF THE MONTH: "Heisey Ashtrays in Color," presented by Jim Cooke





Jim will discuss the 100 or so ashtrays Heisey made (in color). His collection includes many of the colorful ashtrays Heisey made during its 64 years of production. At left are five examples of Jim's Heisey ashtray collection.

BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 7:00 p.m. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

4-5 – Roseburg's Antiques and Collectibles Sale

5 – Polk Flea Market, Rickreall

11-12 – Picc-A-Dilly Flea Market, Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene

12 – Rose City Collectors Market, Airport Holiday Inn, 8521 NE Columbia Blvd.

12 – Salem Collectors Market, Salem Armory

18-19 – Medford Giant Flea Market, Medford Armory

25-26 – Christine Palmer at Portland EXPO Center

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

2nd Weekend – Old Mill at Yamhill Flea Market, 140 W. Main St., Yamhill

Visit estatesale-finder.com for local sales in the area

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



DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

Donna Edgar—PROG American Glass Rally 1993 mug Jerry Linschoten—plant donated by Elmer Heffner Ed Martin—milk glass candy box donated by Millius Estate Services Donna Miller—water decanter donated by Millius Estate Services Mary Ann Specht—Royal Albert cream & sugar donated by Millius Estate Services



ENTERTAINMENT 2015 BOOKS FOR SALE

Books will be at the October & November meetings. THESE USUALLY SELL OUT BY THE END OF NOVEMBER!!! TO ORDER: CALL BOB OR EVELYN CLINK 503-777-6771

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new season is upon us! We have had our first fall rain and our first PROG meeting.

Just a reminder that at the October meeting those of you who have had Proggy this last year should bring your favorite picture of his adventures. We will be voting for the best picture, and the winner will receive a one-year membership to PROG.

The board has approved the budget for the coming year. As we worked through this process, it brought back the thought that all of us have unique talents. We all need to work together to provide the funds to support our club.

You can do this by volunteering to be on a committee. This does not mean that you have to attend committee meetings. There are a lot of things that need to be done that do not require travel or attendance at a meeting. Ask a committee chairperson how you might help them.

I want to personally encourage each and every one of you, and thank you for your efforts in supporting PROG.

Ed Martin, President

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

This just in—the theme for our displays at the January 24-25, 2015, show & sale will be "A Little Bit of History." We all collect history, don't we? So how about displaying your personal history of collecting? The displays will be the manageable card table size, so be thinking about displaying the glass, antiques and collectibles that you love!

Fred Leeson will have his *My-Te-Fine Merchant* books at the show, so part of the display area will be members' Fred Meyer memorabilia. All are welcome to contribute pieces for that.

We are looking for a couple of raffle items for the show. Any thoughts?

NEWLETTER COMMITTEE:

Barbara C, colelee@easystreet.net

Jewell G, jewellsbks@aol.com

Cindy T, cid12@icloud.com

SAVE THE DATE!



PROG'S 2014

MINI-AUCTION TUESDAY, NOV. 18 AT CLUB

DONATIONS BEING SOLICITED!!

Please bring your clean, undamaged glass, collectible or gift item donations to the October meeting. PLEASE INCLUDE A LIST AND/OR PUT A STICKY NOTE WITH YOUR NAME ON IT ON EACH PIECE

QUESTIONS?

Carole Bess White 503-901-0505, cbessw@aol.com

Pictured above is a recent donation, a fabulous red Georgian rose bowl/vase by Viking Glass donated by Millius Estate Services

Bid on it at the Mini-Auction and it could go home with you!

FRED MEYER, A MY-TE-FINE MERCHANT WITH SPECIAL GUEST FRED LEESON



Author Fred Leeson's latest book is *My-Te-Fine Merchant, Fred Meyer's Retail Revolution.* Born Frederick Grubmeyer, Fred Meyer (1886-1978) had a varied career as a gold miner, horse-drawn provisioner to lumber camps and a coffee shop owner before shortening his name and settling into the grocery and real estate businesses and spending 70 of his 92 years in Portland, Oregon.

He was a pioneer of the "one-stop" store that includes groceries and everything else. He claimed not to have had an "aha" moment but got the idea for one-stop shopping by looking for opportunities and keenly observing his customers and competitors. Piggly Wiggly opened the first "self-service" grocery in 1916 in Memphis, TN. Prior to this, groceries were sold in small stores by clerks who pulled items from

the shelves, packed them and delivered them to the homes. "Cash and carry" was another new idea at the time because grocery purchases previously had been billed monthly. These innovations saved labor and delivery costs, and Meyer expanded and developed them by adding apparel, drugs, garden and household goods over the years. If one of his ideas failed, he moved on and never mentioned it again. Meyer was a very private man but always forward-looking.

As a young man Meyer frequented a deli run by Eva Chiles, a widow with a son. Meyer and Eva married in Seattle in 1919. He spent so much time on his business that Eva said she had to join his staff if she ever wanted to see him, so she worked beside him until her death. Her namesake Eve's Restaurant had the first microwave oven in Portland. It was as big as a refrigerator, and to obtain it Meyer had to send a technician to the factory to learn how to operate and repair it. Meyer predicted that soon every house would have one in its kitchen, and he was right, as usual. He was brilliant, demanding and critical of his staff and even his wife, who said, "He isn't so bad."

Fred Meyer had no children and lived in several apartments including a penthouse at the Envoy Apartments in S.W. Portland so Eva could garden on the rooftop terrace, and a penthouse at the Vista St. Clair. Meyer ended his days in the new Harrison Tower, where in the last months of his life he destroyed his personal records, leaving behind only his business records.

Meyer succeeded because he: valued his customers, selected good talent, embraced technology, planned ahead, sought opportunities, did not dwell on his failures, endlessly quested for efficiency and supported the local economy. For example, he bought his trucks from Portland's Consolidated Freightways.

Meyer's shortcomings were that: he had an abrasive management style, failed to grasp land-use planning, could not let go despite his age and failing health and could have gone national if he had thought bigger. In fact, he met with Sam Walton of Wal-Mart Stores, and Walton adapted many of Meyer's ideas, but Meyer failed to learn from Walton. Meyer would only speak to merchants he didn't consider to be competitors, and at the time Walton's stores were in the south.

Three things to know about Fred Meyer are:

- ▶ He was always the smartest guy in the room despite having only a grade school education.
- ► He thought of little else in life but business, which he had on his mind 24/7.
- ► He commanded respect—no "first name-basis" employees, and he kept friends and relatives only as long as they were useful to him.

On a personal note, as a young reporter at the Oregon Journal, Leeson actually interviewed Fred Meyer. Meyer, his PR guy Gerry Pratt and Leeson met in the lobby of the Benson Hotel, and Meyer was cranky. Barcodes were brand new, and Meyer asked Leeson if he knew what "UPC" meant. Leeson answered "Universal Price Code." Wrong, it means "Universal Product Code," and that ended the interview.

On another personal note, PROG member Ron Miller's dad was a glassblower and demonstrated blowing neon tubes at the Foster Road store when it opened in 1952.

If you would like more information on this interesting local figure, purchase a signed copy of the book by contacting Fred Leeson at fredleeson@hotmail.com or 503-281-1823.



PEMBROKE PATTERN BY MIKASA CHINA WITH BARBARA COLEMAN

Pembroke pattern has a mid-century look but is very elegant, resembling some Lenox China patterns. It is white with a gold rim. It was manufactured from 1971 to 1986. Barbara has 14 dinner plates and 8 each of the other place setting pieces.

Pembroke dinner plates that used to sell for \$50 now go for \$10 to \$15, but the coffee pot still sells for \$89-\$90.

The butter dish did not come with a lid, and the gravy boat has an attached underplate. The cups are footed, and the sugar does have a lid.

Mikasa was founded in 1936. It is an importing company, not a manufacturer, so companies all over the world make its china, glass and other products.

MIKASA

Photos by Neal Skibinski



SHOW & TELL

Jack Bookwalter—long Italian art glass duck; Sydney Harbor Bridge basket c. 1932

Diane Foster—two-tone cordial, probably from WVA, c. 1940's;Val St. Lambert opál (milk glass) covered candy with painted decoration; red vase similar to Blenko but has diamond optic

Kate Fuller—large, clear lead crystal vase c. 1990's or later; Art Deco multi-piece dresser set in satin glass, probably Czech or German c. 1930's

Elmer Heffner—big pink Chinese cased glass vase (you can tell it's Chinese by the uneven, hammered-looking pontil)

Gyrid Hyde-Towle—art glass orange-striped Italian latticino pitcher she found at Good Will for \$2; clear Blenko vase with red decoration; cranberry flashed comport, possibly by Louie or one of the other WVA glassmakers; Jablonski glass sculpture

Diana Jones—aluminum Mayan calendar plate

Susan Landauer—blown Rogaska goblet

Sandra Millius—Pink Viking comport that Sandra is donating to the November Mini-Auction; original 1930's and reissued 1950's-60's flower band bowls by Indiana

Mark Moore—Tiffin amberina comport, a gift from Gyrid Hyde-Towle. (Amberina is a "heat-struck" (refired) color shading from yellow to orange to red)

Dave & Linda Sprau—two Buena Vista pottery crocks, one that author Blaine Schmeer placed in an Aurora mall and found on the way home from our August picnic, and one from Linda's grandmother **Carole Bess White**—Tiffin opaque blue dahlia vase; green Tiffin spiral optic footed console bowl; amber

Cambridge in Farber cocktail goblet; New Martinsville amber smoke set; New Martinsville pink vanity set; green and black necklace

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

MEETING

TUE. NOV. 4 TUE. MAR. 3 LOCATIONS TBD

R.S.V.P. COMMITTEE CHAIR MARK MOORE 503-286-5224 mark@pdxhistory.com

SHOW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

TUE. OCT. 28 TUE. DEC. 2 TUE. JAN. 6 LOCATIONS TBD

R.S.V.P. TO COMMITTEE CHAIR CAROLE BESS WHITE 503-901-0505, cbessw@aol.com Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.



Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc. Calendar of Events • President's Message Fred Meyer, A My-Te-Fine Story Pembroke Pattern by Mikasa China • Show & Tell Opportunities For You To Help the Club•

