

MARCH 2011



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.

MARCH

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

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

GREETERS: Barb Larsen and Barb Dietz
(Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)

SPECIAL: English Ceramics Dish Night

Bring a sample of your favorite English bone china, chintz, Spode, transfer ware, flow blue or other china, porcelain or pottery. Neal Skibinski will discuss the various patterns of English ceramics.

**PATTERN OF THE MONTH:
"BILLINGSLEY ROSE" MADE BY SPODE,
PRESENTED BY JOI SHERVEY**



Pictured above left is a Billingsley Rose cup and saucer. Pictured above at right is a Billingsley Rose creamer. At top is a tea tray and above is a tea pot. The Spode design is circa 1892 and is pattern # 2/8867.

HOSPITALITY: March Committee listed on page 2

BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, March 8, 2011,
at the Friendship Masonic Center, 7:00 p.m.
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

5-6 – Palmer/Wirfs Portland EXPO,
Expo Center, 2060 N. Marine Drive

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

6 – Polk Flea Market, Rickreall

12-13 – So. Ore. Antiques &
Collectibles, Medford Armory

13 – Salem Collectors Market,
Salem Armory

20 – Medford Giant Flea Market,
Medford Armory

20 – Picc-A-Dilly Flea Market

26-27 – Roseburg's Spring
Antiques & Collectibles Sale

APRIL

15 – Webfooters Antique Paper
Auction, Grotto Conference
Center, Portland

16-17 – Webfooters Postcard
Show, Jackson Armory

MAY

7-8 – Hillsboro Vintage Sale

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 Friendship Masonic
Center, 5626 N.E. Alameda
Street, Portland, OR, 97213



Photos by Neal Skibinski

❖INSIDE❖

Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.

- ♦Calendar of Events
- ♦Membership Information
- ♦Hall China Co. "Crocus"
- ♦Fabulous Finds From PROG's 2011 Show and Sale and Show Report
- ♦2011 Convention - May 26, 27, 28



Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.

publishes 11 newsletters a year.

If you would like to contribute an article, contact:

Barbara Coleman at 503-281-1823,
colelee@easystreet.net

AND Jewell Gowan at 503-510-9137,
jewellsbks@aol.com

AND Cindy Thomas at 503-481-5401,
cst@wbcable.net

HOSPITALITY

Sincere Thank You's to Barbara Dietz and Barb Larson for serving hotdogs and chili - as well as cleaning up at our February meeting! Also - Thank you's to everyone who helped set up the hospitality tables in our temporary location and for bringing wonderful treats to share. Your assistance was really appreciated!

Well, yours truly enjoyed the February meeting so much, she plum forgot to obtain a list of sign-ups for the March meeting! So if you would like to bring a dish to our March meeting - please do! Since I plan to use up the remainder of the purchased items from the show - and most of those involve meat and cheese, suggestions would be to balance out the menu with some appetizers, salad or veggie plate, fruit dish, or dessert. If you could let me know whether or not you'll be bringing something, it would be appreciated.

Thank you,
Mariam Morehead, Hospitality Coordinator
971-219-8817
mariam96@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to PROG's New Members:
Kathryn Anderson of Troutdale, Oregon
Linda Fairchild of Pocatello, Idaho
Paul Shervey of Gresham, Oregon

Winner of a \$5 Glass Bucks:
Rose Mary Joslin for sponsoring Dede Joslin as a new Member of PROG

Thank you to our PROG Members who have renewed their yearly Memberships:
Barbara Larson
Susan Conroy
Suzanne Pastori
Cindy Thomas
Bruce Thomas
Joi Shervey

How to make money for the PROG Convention:
When someone you refer to join PROG becomes a Member, you get \$5 in Glass Bucks!

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

Jan. 2011 Show and Sale Photos by Neal Skibinski



JANUARY 2011 SHOW & SALE REPORT

Carole Bess White

The weather gods smiled on us for this year's Show & Sale—there wasn't a hint of ice or snow!! And attendance was even better than last year when we had the gun show next door. Dealers and customers alike reported that they had a great show

Jack Bookwalter again provided his van for transportation, and he and Neal Skibinski, Dave Sprau, Dick Towle and Dick's friend Manuel loaded it up on Thursday before the show and then returned everything to our storage areas on Monday after the show, with Show Manager Carole White doing light packing and generally making a nuisance of herself both days.

Our member displays were outstanding. Captain Barbara Coleman organized them around the theme "America's Glass Legacy," with half of the displays being photos of Depression Glass factories and pieces of the glass they produced, and the other half being displays of Early American Pattern Glass pieces. Thanks to Dennis Headrick for mounting the photos. Displays take a lot of time, effort and thought, and we thank our members who participated:

Jack Bookwalter
Mavis Case
Rogene Clements
Evelyn Clink
Barbara Coleman
Kate Fuller

Jewell Gowan
Gyrid Hyde-Towle
Suzanne Lemon
Sandra Martin
Ron & Donna Miller
Sandra Millius

Mariam Morehead
Trish Reading
Joi Shervey
Neal Skibinski
Cindy Thomas
Carole Bess White

Barbara compiled a terrific book with a page on each factory, so viewers could page through it and learn more about what they were seeing in the displays. Neal Skibinski and Sandra Millius gave a "factory tour" talk on the displays on both days of the show. We all learned a lot from them, as always.

Dennis and Eva Headrick do a LOT of behind-the-scenes work. Dennis does the floor plan, and they make the dealer table signs, door prize slips, dealer and member badges PLUS they mail out our postcards.

This year we added two new projects to the event: a snack bar and a book sale! The former kitchen in the show hall still has a three-part sink, so we could have our own snack bar. Mariam Morehead took on the daunting job of setting up and running the snack bar with help from Barbara Dietz, Gyrid Hyde-Towle, Barbara Larson, Fred Leeson, Mona Marsh, Suzanne Pastori, Trish Reading and Dick Towle.

Health regulations permitted us to use our own electric appliances such as crock-pots and portable ovens to prepare a menu of soup, chili, sandwiches and hot dogs. We appreciated having good, hot food at hand, and it helped keep the customers on site and shopping. The Fairplex staff told us that the sinks would not be there next year, so we won't be able to do an indoor snack bar again, but for this year it was great!!

We had a wonderful sale of books on glass, antiques and collectibles. Jewell Gowan started the ball rolling by donating 8 or 9 boxes of books she had purchased from another bookseller who went out of business, and other PROG members and friends generously donated books as well. Al Carder priced every single volume, and Carol Carder boxed and organized them. They added a lot to the show!!

Mavis Case and Richard Cox captained the club sale booth and sold a record of 14 tables to members.

A lot of work goes into our Shows before, during and after. Many members helped, and many more took postcards and flyers to set out around the area. We gratefully thank participating members:

Don & Jan Baxter
Jack Bookwalter
Al & Carol Carder
John & Rogene Clements
Barbara Coleman
Susan Conroy
Barbara Dietz
Dennis & Eva Headrick
Ardy Kneeland

Barb Larson
Fred Leeson
Suzanne Lemon
Mona Marsh
Ed & Sandra Martin
Ron & Donna Miller
Sandra Millius
Jeff Motsinger
Venita Owen-McClain

Suzanne Pastori
Dolores Preas
Trish Reading
Neal Skibinski
Dave Sprau & Linda Baden-Sprau
Jeff & Mary Ann Specht
Cindy Thomas
Dick Towle & Gyrid Hyde-Towle
Les & Carole Bess White

(These names were taken directly from the signup sheets, so if you helped but did not sign up, we are sorry for the omission of your name and appreciate what you did and ask forgiveness for our faulty memory.)

The Show & Sale is one of PROG's two major fundraisers of the year, the other being the Convention Auction, so now it's time to turn our thoughts to the Auction. Our Procurement Committee will be contacting you soon, so please be thinking of possible donations.

FABULOUS FINDS FROM THE 2011 RAIN OF GLASS SHOW & SALE

*Jan. 2011 Show and Sale Fabulous Finds
that members brought to the February Meeting
All Photos by Neal Skibinski*

One of the best benefits of hosting a glass show & sale is the opportunity for members to shop not only during dealer setup but also during the show itself. Many of us added to our collections at our 2011 Show & Sale and showed off some of our finds at the February meeting:

Mavis Case, "A Good Boy" pressed glass cup

Barbara Coleman, Cambridge Mulberry dinner plate with #707 etching; Westmoreland milk glass cat box

Richard Cox, Imperial donkey in red & white slag glass; crystal horse sculpture from a Heisey mold

Jewell Gowan, green McKee footed bowl

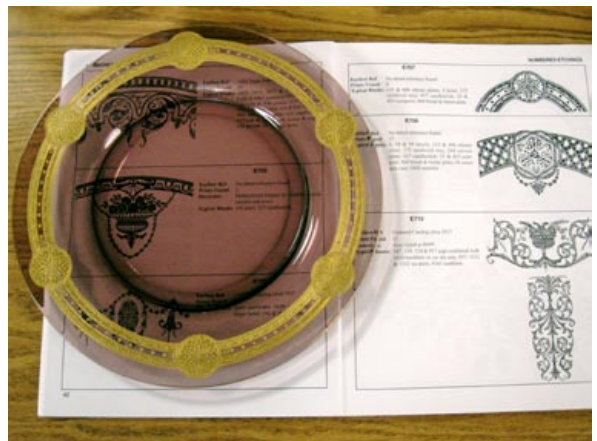
Eric Levake, Tiffin Wisteria pink bowl and ice tea glass

Wes Risher, glass by Dunbar, used to serve many Tiki cocktails

Neal Skibinski, Fostoria amber 2333 console bowl from the Rain of Glass Club booth and matching candleholders

Linda Sprau, Consolidated Glass 11" Dogwood vase; Heisey mustard pot; Weller vase; Royal Doulton Flambé penguins; modern ashtray—pear design

Carole Bess White, Czech perfume bottle, pencil box with pencils and a bar tool, all from Carder Country Antiques



**IT'S TIME TO
SHOP SHOP SHOP!!**



**THE 2011 PROG AUCTIONS
ARE COMING UP FAST!!**

The auctions will be held in conjunction
with the Glass Collectors Convention:

THU., MAY 26, 2011

FRI., MAY 27, 2011

**DONATIONS OF NICE,
CLEAN, UNDAMAGED
VINTAGE**

**GLASS-CHINA-POTTERY
AND OTHER
ANTIQUES &
COLLECTIBLES**

**ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.
PLEASE BRING YOUR ITEMS
TO CLUB, OR CONTACT
CAROLE WHITE 503-901-0505
TO ARRANGE PICK UP**

**2011 Glass Collectors
◆ CONVENTION ◆**



Parlor Fount photograph courtesy of Kirk Nelson

6 SEMINARS ON GLASS

Kirk Nelson—

Sandwich Glass, Pairpoint & Mt. Washington Glass

Verna Kocken—

Czechoslovakian Glass Perfume Bottles

Eason Eige—

Mexican Glass

Bea Martin—

Boxed Sets of Children's Dishes

Marcia "Sparkles" Brown—

Signed Beauties of Costume Jewelry

PLUS ACTIVITIES INCLUDING 2 BIG AUCTIONS

LOTS INCLUDE:

7-DAY STAY IN LAKE TAHOE

GLASS—ANTIQUES—COLLECTIBLES—& MORE

NO BUYERS PREMIUM • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SILENT AUCTION MAY 26

VIEWING 5:00 P.M.
FIRST CLOSING 7:00 P.M.

ORAL AUCTION MAY 27

VIEWING 5:30 P.M.
BIDDING 6:30 P.M.

MAY 26 - 27 - 28, 2011

THE GROTTO CONFERENCE CENTER
8840 NE SKIDMORE ◆ PORTLAND OR 97220

INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS:

www.rainofglass.org

503-286-5224

HALL CHINA COMPANY'S CROCUS PATTERN



By Carole Bess White

Robert Hall founded The Hall China Company in East Liverpool, Ohio, on August 14, 1903. The first items produced were bedpans and combinets (covered slop pails). Hall died in 1904. His son Robert took over, and in 1911 developed a single-fire, lead-free glaze that was consistently hard, nonporous and craze-free.

World War I was a boon to Hall. European potteries weren't able to ship stoneware vessels used in restaurant kitchens, so Hall devoted all its production to utility restaurant ware.

In 1919 Hall introduced a new line—gold-decorated teapots for the retail trade. They soon became the world's largest producer of ceramic teapots, and they supported their products with advertising campaigns to educate the housewife in the correct brewing of tea and the correct pot to brew it in—Hall's, of course!

In 1928 they introduced decorated cookware. Dinnerware had been introduced in 1908, but it was only made in small quantities and was discontinued in 1914. In the 1930's, Hall again began producing dinnerware, which was decorated with decals.

The Crocus decal was introduced on dinnerware in the 1930's and is one Hall's strongest Art Deco patterns. Today, a 9 1/8" "breakfast" plate runs anywhere from \$10 to \$20, while the 10 1/4" "dinner" plate is more than \$200. Needless to say, I don't have the dinner plate! Smaller side plates are \$5 to \$10 each. A cup and saucer set is about \$10 to \$20. As you can see, you can put together a nice table of Crocus for a reasonable investment. The harder to find serving pieces and many kitchenware items are much higher in price, from \$100 on up. The antiques market being what it is today, I'm not sure that I would invest in the more expensive pieces at the higher prices even

if I could find them. In addition to tableware and kitchenware, Crocus pattern can be found on metal accessories such as canisters, cake takers, etc. The metal coffee dispenser canister used to be very expensive, but now it is available on eBay for \$9.99 to \$19.99 plus postage. I've not been able to find any of the other accessories to add to my collection. My entire set of service for four was purchased on eBay because I've not been able to find pieces locally.

A big part of Hall's success was the premiums they produced for many different companies. Autumn Leaf pattern was produced solely as premiums for the Jewel Tea Company. Other companies they produced for included General Electric, Hotpoint, Montgomery Ward and Sears. Some Hall patterns may have been sold door-to-door.

Hall's original Crocus tableware, kitchenware and accessories have not been reproduced, but there is a line of new "fantasy" pieces now available. They are usually marked something like "Made Exclusively for Hall by China Specialties," by a company licensed by Hall to sell these pieces. The line includes many different items from ashtrays to wall pockets. The prices on these items are fairly substantial, so it is not likely that unscrupulous sellers would grind off the backstamps and try to sell them as old originals. There is usually a number of these pieces on eBay.

The Hall China Company is still in business today. Their website is www.hallchina.com. Replacements Ltd also sells Hall China, and there are always pieces listed on eBay. For information on Hall's history, visit hallchinacollectors.com, or check out one of the Whittmayer's books on Hall China from the PROG library.



Photos by Neal Skibinski