

# 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.

# OCTOBE



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

WHEN: Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (Library open at 6:00 p.m.)

**GREETERS: Jan Baxter and Suzanne Lemon** (Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)

# SPECIAL: Candy Dish Night!

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. Pictured at top is a Viking EPIC Long Tailed Bird candy dish. Pictured above is a Tiara Colonial black candy dish.

## PATTERN OF THE MONTH: Fenton's "Vasa Murrhina," presented by Neal Skibinski



Neal will present examples of Vasa Murrhina, manufactured by the Fenton Art Glass Company of Williamstown, West Virginia. This pattern was introduced in 1964 and was offered in five different colors. Pictured at left is an aventurine green with blue vase. Pictured below is a rose mist vase.



**HOSPITALITY: October's** Committee on page 2

**BOARD MEETING:** Tuesday, October 9, 2012, 7:00 p.m. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **OCTOBER**

6-7 - Roseburg Antique Show, **Douglas County Fairgrounds** 

13-14 - Picc-A-Dilly Flea Market, Eugene

20-21 - Orca Glass & Pottery Show, Kent Commons, WA

21 - Salem Collectors Market, Salem Armory

27-28 -- Palmer/Wirfs Portland **EXPO, Expo Center** 

28 - Medford Giant Flea Market, **Medford Armory** 

**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

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday—McMinnville Flea Mkt.

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

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 Ed Martin. 12764 SE Nixon Ave, Milwaukie, OR. 97222.

AUCTION FUN!!



THINK HOLIDAY GIFTS!!

PROG'S 2012

## MINI-AUCTION

WILL BE TUESDAY, NOV. 20

at the club meeting

Pictured above is a donation we received from Barbara Coleman, a Heisey Provincial platter. She also donated 4 red and green martini glasses and a darling cute dangling snowman lawn ornament.

Janice Wallace donated a pair of Heisey candleholders.

THANKS TO BARBARA & JANICE FOR THEIR DONATIONS!

#### **DONATIONS WANTED!!**

Please bring your clean, undamaged glass, collectible or gift item donations to the October meeting, or we will pick up in the metro area

BUT IF YOU'D RATHER BE A BIDDER THAN A DONOR, WE APPRECIATE THAT, TOO!!

Questions? Carole White, 503-901-0505

PROG'S AUCTIONS ARE KNOWN FOR VERY GOOD GLASS THAT GOES FOR VERY REASONABLE PRICES!



# WE ALL NEED TO EAT!

The need for food for those who can't afford to feed their families is ongoing, so we are again having our

#### **HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE**

Please bring donations of food in cans or paper/cardboard packages (no glass or perishable items, please) to the November meeting.

(Or to any meeting as Central Lutheran has a permanent food donation bin.)

THANK YOU!!

#### HOSPITALITY

Everyone who wants something else to eat besides candy, please bring it on! We appreciate everyone's help in providing refreshments at our monthly meetings. *Thank you!* 

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

We welcome two new PROG Members, who signed-up at the September PROG Meeting. One of the new members came to the July meeting and returned in September to join. The other one joined at the end of the meeting. I encourage you to bring your friends and colleagues to a monthly meeting.

Helpful Hint: The minutes you spend talking about PROG to prospective members (anyone who is not currently a member) count as Volunteer time for PROG. You can also count the time you spend showing your guest(s) around the room and introducing them to PROG members when your guests come to a meeting. If your guests ride with you to a meeting, you can count the time from when you left your house until you return to your home after the meeting. Be sure to record your Volunteer Time on your page in the Member Sign-In Book that is on the Greeter's Table at the monthly meetings.

It's a Win-Win Situation:

Help PROG Grow by bringing or sending in new Members.

When they join you get the satisfaction of helping PROG

And PROG gives you \$5 in Glass Bucks for each person.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**

Entertainment Books are in! \$30.00 and \$10.50 goes to our treasury plus a bonus card when you go on the internet is worth \$25 and the list of participating restaurants that honor it. We will have books for October and November. By mid November we are sold out.

Call Evelyn or Bob Clink, 503.777.6771

### President's Message:

As I mentioned last month my main goal for PROG this year is increasing membership by trying to attract the younger generations. If you attended September's club meeting you saw the first of this as we had some open discussion from the membership on how we might accomplish this goal.

A few of the suggestions were:

Interact with other groups like Mid Century Modern League,

Facebook page (which PROG has but not all members were aware),

Public antique identification night,

Advertise meetings, show and convention on Estatesale-finders.com and Craigslist,

Have a presence in the Starlight Parade. Etc.

These are all great ideas which we will begin to discuss and explore. Keep the ideas coming but remember we also need your help to really make these things happen.

I was thrilled by the membership participation in the discussion we had last month so come on out for some Trick or Treat on Candy Dish Night and Treat us with your ideas and I just might have a Treat for you.

Happy antique hunting.

Ed Martin, President



#### SHOW COMMITTEE UPDATE

The show committee met on September 25 to firm up plans for our 2013 Show & Sale.

Some of our captains are:

Van Transport—Jack Bookwalter
Postcard Printing—Mark Moore
Postcard Mailing & Collateral Printing—Dennis Headrick
Book Sale—Jewell Gowan
Member Sale Booth—Mavis Case & Richard Cox
Club Display—Barbara Coleman & Mable Hardebeck
Friday Lunch—Gyrid Hyde-Towle
Appraisals—Neal Skibinski

We are looking for captains for raffle ticket sales and outdoor sign placement, so if these are things you would enjoy doing, please volunteer.

The club display area where members display their collections for the education—and envy!—of show attendees is always a popular attraction. Look for an article by Barbara and Mable on the display in this newsletter.

We also talked about the member sale booth. At present, PROG members may participate in the booth, which is a cooperative, by taking half of an 8' table up to two 8' tables and then working in the booth for an assigned time rather than for the entire show.

Our next show committee meeting will be:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18
TOSIS RESTAURANT, 6120 N.E. SANDY BLVD., PORTLAND
NO-HOST DINNER 6 P.M. ◆ MEETING 6 P.M.

R.S.V.P. TO CAROLE WHITE, 503-901-0505 or cbessw@aol.com





#### PICKARD CHINA'S GRANDEUR PATTERN with SUSAN CONROY

Wilder Pickard founded the Pickard China Company in 1889 in Edgerton, Wisconsin. At first, he imported china blanks from Europe and Japan, which were then painted by artists in their homes and fired at Pickard's home. From 1893 to 1930, Pickard was primarily a decorating company, making hand-painted, heavily gilded art pieces, dessert ware and tea sets with illustrations of flora and fauna. They also had landscape and portrait illustrations, and these are the rarest and most expensive pieces to buy today.

In 1911 Pickard started making etched china. The artisans would sit in the Marshall Fields window painting the decorations. Marshall Fields was their biggest customer. In 1930 the company moved to its present location in Antioch IL because of its large population of workers who had trained in the great European porcelain houses. In 1937 they introduced their distinctive "warm white" china glaze. During WWII, Pickard made gravy boats for the U.S. Navy, which helped them stay in business and which also gave them access to materials as a War contractor.

In the 1950's the company shifted to mass marketing of dinnerware with skillfully applied decals, lots of 24k gold and very graceful shapes for the bridal market. Susan's father was a district sales manager for the Fostoria Glass Company. Fostoria and Pickard partnered to produce glassware that matched the Pickard china patterns, so for about 10 years her dad sold both lines. He asked Susan if she wouldn't like to have a set of china, but she was just starting out and couldn't really afford it. So he said he would check into Pickard's "seconds" department to see what was available in Grandeur, her chosen pattern. Pete Pickard, Wilder's

grandson, selected her set himself.

Pickard is the only American, continuous, family-owned fine china company still in business today. They have a retail department for china sales, another department that creates pieces for government entities such as embassies and diplomatic missions. There is Pickard in the White House and Blair House, the vice-president's residence. Laura Bush wanted a less formal pattern, so she asked Pickard to design a magnolia pattern because of all the magnolia trees on the White House property. Queen Elizabeth and Michelle Obama have also commissioned Pickard sets.



#### DIVIDED RELISH DISHES with CAROLE BESS WHITE & NEAL SKIBINSKI

Nearly every Depression-era glass company, whether they specialized in machine-made "Depression Glass" or the finer, handmade "Elegant Glass," produced divided relish dishes.

In keeping with her m.o. of collecting oddball shapes that can't possibly be stacked or conveniently stored (center-handled sandwich servers, candleholders or baskets, anyone?), most of Carole's relish dishes are large and impractical, but beautiful and often unique. About half of hers are fitted, with glass inserts in glass bases or metal holders, while the rest are one-piece including the handle. For whatever reason, Carole feels her relish dishes should include lidded cheese and cracker sets, so she brought a couple of those as well, which inspired a request for a "Cheese and Cracker Set Night," so look for that topic to come up soon.

Neal Skibinski brought several examples of divided relishes from his collection, including a Fostoria Minuet etching in Topaz, Fostoria Springtime etching, Fostoria Arcady etching, Fostoria Lacy Leaf etching and an unknown Art Deco relish--probably European--shown on the cover of this newsletter. Janice Wallace brought a Heisey Plantation 4-part relish, Heisey Narrow Flute with Rim two-part relish, Heisey Lobe two-part relish in Flamingo. Mable Hardebeck brought an Imperial Nu-Cut in "Rose Marie" (pink). Several others brought dishes from their collections as well.

Some of the companies that produced many different styles of divided relish dishes are Cambridge, Heisey, Fostoria, Tiffin (U.S. Glass) and Dunbar. A trip through the always-helpful *Colored Glassware of the Depression Era, Book 2*, by Hazel Marie Weatherman will yield many examples of divided relishes for you to collect.



# NEW CHIHULY EXHIBIT OPENS IN SEATTLE CENTER

-- Any PROG members want to go as a group?



There is a new exhibit of glass by contemporary glass artist Dale Chihuly at the Seattle Center (1962 World's Fair site). My former next-door neighbor in Santa Rosa, CA and her grandaughter came to visit me in Portland this August. Searching for things to do, we thought a one-day adventure to Seattle via Amtrack would be a fun activitiy. Once there, we noticed signs near the Space Needle directing us to the "Chihuly Garden and Glass". So, of course, anything with the word glass in it I had to check out. And I have been a long-time fan of Dale Chihuly ever since seeing his exhibit at the Portland Art Museum some ten or more years ago.

The new exhibit is a permanent installation ecompassing 1.5 acres. Part of it is inside, part is contained in a new "glass house", and part is an outside strolling garden. It is said to be the largest permanent exhibit of Chihuly glass in the world. It does not disappoint. Anyone who likes glass will love this exhibit -- in fact I cant imagine anyone not being completely blown away by the collection, whether they care much about glass or not. The shapes, the colors, the sheer size of some of the installations are nothing short of magnificent. The inside galleries are divided into different "periods" showing how and

when the artist acquired some of his stylistic elements. Of particular interest to me was the "Northwest Room" where they show how Chihuly's early work was inspired by Northwest Native American basket weaving. I had never made that connection before, but now that it has been explained to me, the connection seems so obvious. Other galleries stress his "Italian period" when he was influenced by the great glass houses of Venice, his "Sea Life" period when he came up with his organic shell and sea life forms, and a number of other galleries showing other influences. The maritime city of Seattle seems the perfect place to display his many sea life creations. And, being from Tacoma, Chihuly is almost their native son.

The photographer's heart in me started to race when I walked into the first exhibit. But after I took my first photograph (the "boats of glass" shown here) my camera flashed that big red "Recharge the Battery" sign on the screen. Rats! .. So for this article I have had to rely on my quite competent photographer friend and former neighbor, Eleanor Alexander, to supply most of the photographs you see here. But this has also given me a good reason why I need to go back! Perhaps we could organize a PROG trip and go visit the exhibit together? We used to take trips for all kinds of glass related adventures. I think it might be time to revive that idea. We did go as far as Tacoma one year.. Seattle is just a little further beyond that. Connections via AMTRACK work out really well. You leave Union Station here at 8:30 and get into Seattle around 11:30. The last hour of the trip alongside the beaches of Puget Sound with the Olympic Mountains in the background has to be one of the most scenic of all AMTRACK's routes. The return trip back home departs Seattle at 5:30, leaving a whole afternoon of site-seeing in downtown Seattle. To make the connections even easier, there is now a subway from King St Station to the Westlake Mall where you board the monorail straight-away to the Seattle Center. The Chihuly exhibit is right at the base of the Space Needle at the terminus of the monorail. We had plenty of time in our afternoon to take in the glass exhibit, ride to the top of the Space



Needle, and have lunch at the Pike Place Market. I have also heard of a new direct bus service to Seattle called the "Bolt Bus". Supposedly, they are quicker than the train (traffic permitting) and are unbelievable inexpensive

(\$10-15). Any PROG member have any experience with the Bolt Bus?

We talked at out last general meeting of how we needed to make our club more relevent to a younger generation. A trip to the Chihuly exhibit would be a good place to start. Dale Chihuly is what is happening in the contemporary world of glass today. He is well known and highly sought after around the world. And he is in our back door. Let's do it. I couldn't think of a better pick me up for the winter blues than a trip up north to see this wonderful, colorful collection. Any takers?

Written by Jack Bookwalter
Photos by Jack Bookwalter
and Eleanor Alexander





### **ATTENTION ALL PROG CLUB DISPLAYERS:**

We are thinking of having a special club display at this year's Rain of Glass January Show and Sale.

The proposed theme is "Tea for Two," if we decide on two place settings per table or "Time for Tea" if we decide on four place settings per table. But we need your help! We need at least 8 of these displays. You may use a combination of glass, china and silver. In addition to the place settings of cups and saucers, eight-inch plates, creamer and sugar, and tea pot, you will need tablecloth and silverware. At your discretion, accessories that you might add are six-inch plates for dessert or scones, tiered plates or sandwich servers and tidbit dishes or a small bouquet of flowers. The displays will be on card tables.

We will have a sign up at the October 16<sup>th</sup> PROG meeting. Or if you are unable to attend, but want to display, please call Carole White (503-901-0505), Jewell Gowan (503-510-9137), Mabel Hardebeck (503-626-5179) or Barbara Coleman (503-281-1823). We need to know by the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting whether we have enough displays. Thanks for your help!









Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc. c/o Cindy Thomas 795 Corby Street Woodburn, Oregon 97071-3814

# **❖INSIDE ❖**

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

Calendar of Events • President's Message • Membership • Pickard's China Grandeur Pattern
 • Divided Relish Dishes • November Mini-Auction • Food Drive • Show Committee Update
 • Chihuly Exhibit in Seattle • Club Display at January Show



Photos by Neal Skibinski

