



**September 2023**

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**Convention 2023 Report**

*By Vickie Rowe*

Wow – what a convention! There was so much excitement and energy in the room as we greeted friends, viewed the individual display tables, gasped at the club display table and started figuring out which items we wanted to bid on as we viewed the glass that Tom and Debra Burns brought for Friday night's auction.

In this issue of the *Quarterly*, you will see many pictures and read articles about the various seminars that were presented. The convention officially started with the Welcome Reception on Thursday evening. There were six new members who participated in the First-timers Stampede. It was nice to see community members from the local antique malls come and join us.

There was a nice variety of seminar topics and display tables. Thank you to Jean Burns (a first time table displayer), Tim Cantrell, Jeff Hodges, Dave & Renee Shetlar and John Rowe for sharing your stories and stretch glass with us. Members had time to visit the many antique shops in the Denver area in their free time.

We ended the convention with the White Elephant Auction. It was full of laughter, bidding wars and some unique items. A good time was had by all. Thank you, Tom Burns and Billy Richards, for volunteering to be the auctioneers.

The convention team, Joanne Rodgers, Lance Hilkene & Pat Gabree, Gary Waugh, Bob Henkel, Cal Hackeman and Vickie Rowe, is full of gratitude to everyone who helped in any way with setting up, taking down, glass contributions, meal preparation and clean up, and financial support.

We will be returning to Denver next year for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Stretch Glass Society. **Save the dates – August 15-17, 2024.**



## Co-Presidents' Message

Greetings Stretch Glass Society members! We are still in awe of all the beautiful glass we saw at the convention. Now that we are home, our challenge is to find room for the glass that we purchased during our time in Denver!

We are starting our 3<sup>rd</sup> year as the leaders of the Stretch Glass Society. It was an easy decision for us to agree to another two-year term as your co-presidents. We are fortunate to work with a great team of board members. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us if you have concerns or ideas.

At our board meeting prior to the convention, we had some great discussions about the upcoming celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Expect to see much more about the plans in future issues of the newsletter. We are excited to be part of the celebration.

In closing, don't forget to take pictures of your stretch glass, whether it be some new finds or using your stretch glass. Take pictures and send them to either Becki Ann Selby, our newsletter editor or Dave Shetlar, our social media director. We would love to see them!

Happy collecting!

*Vickie and John Rowe*

Vickie and John Rowe  
Co-Presidents 2023-2025



## Spreading the Word About Stretch Glass

*By Jeff Hodges*

To help promote interest in Stretch Glass and our club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I have begun posting Stretch Glass information to Instagram, the Stretch Glass Society Facebook page, the Stretch Glass - Buy / Sell / Trade Facebook page, and my personal Jeff Hodges Facebook page. I have done this every day since our convention ended. My and others' postings to our Stretch Glass Society Facebook page after the convention reached 5,600 people and that was a 509% increase over the last period! For this same time period there were 421 posts, reactions and shares, which was up 538%! Views of our page have gone up dramatically! Imagine what would happen if we all helped our online presence in some way. Therefore, I have herein outlined some ways you can help. You don't have to do every one of these or post every day or at all. But, with your help these are some ways you can help keep these numbers and interest in Stretch going up.

First, if you are on Facebook but haven't friended me, you can do that. You can find me here <https://www.facebook.com/jeff.hodges.3591> or just search for Jeff Hodges. Once friends, you can see what I post about Stretch Glass and, more importantly, hit "Share" to share to your page. This way all your friends can be informed about Stretch Glass and more people can be reached than I can reach alone.

The next thing you can do is join the Stretch Glass Society FB Group. The link to this page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/221334884993661> After joining, or, if you are already a member, be sure to "Like" and, again, if possible, "Share".

Another helpful thing for our SGS and for you, is to join the Stretch Glass - Buy / Sell / Trade Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/194992808040337> Again, by joining you can "Like" and "Share" the postings I do showcasing different types of Stretch which will help to promote Stretch AND you may be able to add to your own collection!

Lastly, I have created an Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/stretchglassfanatic/> My handle here is stretchglassfanatic. If you have an Instagram account, you can find my Stretch postings there. Be sure you "Like", "Follow", and "Share".



I am not asking you to do all of the above. I am asking for your help to do what you can and that which you are comfortable doing. It is fun to talk about Stretch at convention, through our newsletters, and website. But we have to remember, doing this is mostly talking and sharing amongst ourselves. To promote and inform others, to spark in others an interest in what we love, we must reach out beyond our group. I hope you can do what you are able. As always, it is nice to have you and our friendships and common interest in Stretch Glass. Thanks for your help and support.

## Member's Display Tables

In addition to our wonderful Club Display Table, we had five gorgeous individual table displays. Thank you so much for sharing with all of us!

Below each picture is a short summary about each table.



*Dave & Renee Shetlar: Fenton late period ruby baskets, one with a white handle!*



*Tim Cantrell: a variety of glass*



*Jean Bear: bricks and glass – who knew?! She gave us an insight into her hobby of brick collecting before showing how the background of our glass displays affects the color of the iridescence.*



*Jeff Hodges: Fenton #847 Melon Rib in a variety of colors, including a couple of lavender pieces. This display showed how MANY different pieces could be made from the same mold.*



*John Rowe: Fenton #643, Northwood #643 and Dugan bonbons in a variety of colors. He also included two Dugan non-iridized bonbons, one which was painted yellow and the other orange, both with a black stripe at the top of the base.*



## Celebrating 50 Years of Promoting and Preserving American Iridescent Stretch Glass

*By Cal Hackeman and Jeff Hodges*

On April 21, 1974, in Denver, PA, a group of stretch glass enthusiasts gathered to form The Stretch Glass Society. Many of us did not have the opportunity to get to know our founders but we share their passion and interest nearly fifty years later.

On July 20, 2023, the Board of Directors agreed that we should celebrate The Stretch Glass Society's commitment to promoting and preserving stretch glass for the past 50 years with a host of activities and promotions during 2024, our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. We (Jeff & Cal) offered to provide the Board with a plan for a celebration and the Board named us as the overall coordinators for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. We look forward to many of you being involved in the events and outreach. "Two (or more, in this case) heads are better than one" and "It takes a village (or a Society)..." seem appropriate themes for this exciting opportunity.



Stretch glass remains a somewhat unrecognized form of antique and collectible glassware, especially among those who like, buy, sell and study glass made in America in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The Stretch Glass Society is dedicated to promote and preserve stretch glass; many of our activities focus on educating glass enthusiasts about stretch glass. Our goal is to expand the community which is interested in owning, using, buying, selling and displaying stretch glass. We intend to utilize our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year to reach out and engage with a host of individuals and organizations who presently or are likely to share our passion for stretch glass – if only they knew more about it.

We invite you to be a part of this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. You may participate in a wide range of activities from the comfort of your home or join us 'on the road.' We collectively have two objectives – to enjoy (more than usual) our stretch glass and to raise the level of recognition and appreciation of stretch glass by glass lovers, researchers, buyers and sellers. This means sharing our passion with others, whether in person, through advertising, presentations, exhibits, on social media or by treating a few friends to lunch on stretch glass. The options are as varied as our imagination.

How many times have you been in an antique shop or at a show and been asked, "Are you looking for anything special today?" If you reply, as we often do, "Yes, we are looking for stretch glass," you are all too familiar with the usual reply, "Stretch glass, I don't think I know what that is." At home, where we (all of us) use and display our stretch glass, we are also likely to encounter comments such as, "That's beautiful glassware, what is it?" Let's spend 2024 doing what we do best – educating, informing, sharing and showing what stretch glass is and how beautiful and practical it is for entertaining, decorating and gift giving in 2024 as it has been since it was first created and sold by American glass companies 10, 40 or 100 years ago.



Hopefully, you are ready to jump on board and are asking yourself, "just how could I help others better understand and appreciate stretch glass?" Let's start by getting to better know

each other and our stretch glass. We would love to know about your interest in stretch glass – how did you get started, do you focus on a color or a shape or a manufacturer? Would you be willing to share a photo or two of a few (or many) examples of your stretch glass? Do you use your vases for flowers in your home? Do you serve your friends iced tea or lemonade or cookies in/on your stretch glass?

Have you gifted a piece of stretch glass to a child, a grandchild, nephew, niece, etc.? These are the stories we ask you to share so we may share them with others, anonymously, if you prefer. You may write, email, text, even call us with your stories and photos; we will take care of the sharing.

While you are telling us 'your' stretch glass stories, others will be making presentations to glass clubs, glass conventions, setting up displays in glass museums, preparing advertisements for collector and other publications, utilizing our website, Facebook and other social media to reach "the younger folks." We also plan a widespread campaign to bring stretch glass to the attention of antique mall operators and dealers, auctioneers and home decorators. Would you like to help with those activities? We welcome your ideas and involvement, including taking some SGS brochures to your next lunch with friends, glass club meeting, antique mall or just having them in your home for family and friends to read and take home. We especially want to reach out to "the younger generation." They may not be collectors for the sake of collecting, but they like "pretty things" to bring color to their homes and tables. Stretch glass does all of that and more! Let's help them fall in love with stretch glass, just as we have done. We welcome any and all of whatever you are willing to do to help us spread the word about stretch glass.

Thank you for your enthusiasm and love of stretch glass – we all share a passion for this unique American glassware. Let's focus on expanding the community of stretch glass enthusiasts as we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024. We look forward to hearing from you. Contact us at [REDACTED]



## Drinking Vessels - Club Display Table

*By Vickie Rowe*

If a picture is worth a thousand words, does anyone have an idea as to how many words there would be with all the “pitchers” on display on the SGS convention display table? The theme of the display was Beverage Sets and Drinking Vessels. Dave Shetlar, with glass from his collection and those of Cal Hackeman, Pam Steinbach, Les & Roxanne Rowe, Bob Henkle and John & Vickie Rowe, set up a magnificent display of this glass, primarily made by the Diamond, Fenton and Northwood glass companies.



Dave then proceeded to give an overview of the many pieces of glass, which included water sets, lemonade sets, tumblers, mugs, cups, underplates, tumble ups (aka night sets), and guest sets. He pointed out that colors of handles on the pitchers and mugs could vary. Most of them are cobalt blue, but some are clear crystal or the same color as the pitcher. There was also a difference in the placement of handles on the mugs. He also pointed out differences in coasters, most of which were not iridized. In addition to the many pieces that were made in the 1920s, there were also some examples of pitchers, tumblers, and goblets that were produced in the late period by Fenton.

Thank you, Dave for sharing your expertise!



## Unusual, Interesting, Rare, and/or Favorite Glass

*By Vickie Rowe*

Several members brought in their pieces of stretch glass for this presentation, which was moderated by Cal Hackeman. Here is a small sampling of the glass we shared with each other.



- Lance Hilkene brought in several rare pieces, including a pink Imperial swirl bowl in the Diana pattern and he told us, "There is no such thing."
- Millie Coty asked for an ID on a wisteria lampshade. The experts think it was made by Fenton.
- Becki Ann Selby brought in a blue Northwood console bowl in an unusual size.
- Dave Shetlar showed us his Velva Rose twin dolphin flat diamond optic #1502 card tray.
- Pat Halliburton brought a small Velva Rose fan vase with a unique floral decoration.
- John Rowe showed us his recently purchased Fenton tangerine octagon plate with Laurel Leaf etching.
- Debra Brateng brought us her Fenton ruby bowl #640 with the unusual feature of etching.
- Les & Roxanne Rowe brought one of two known Fenton amber big cookie baskets.
- Cal Hackeman brought in several rarities, which included Imperial amethyst ice, blue ice and amber ice sherbets with matching underplates, which are harder to find than the sherbets.



## My Convention Highlights

*By Becki Ann Selby*

I had so much fun at Convention this year! I got off work Tuesday afternoon and made the four hour trek to my dear friend, Millie Coty's house in West Virginia. After spending the night, Millie and I (and her sweet dog, Charlie) headed for Denver. The drive wasn't bad and of course we were so excited to be on our way!

After arriving in Denver and settling in at the hotel, we spent the morning exploring and antiquing. Later that evening the Convention festivities started with the Welcome Reception. It was so nice to see all my old friends and I even made a few new ones. The First-Timer's Stampede was very fun to watch! You could see the gleam in their eyes as they decided what piece they wanted to get. They all seemed excited and happy with their new treasures!



Friday's seminar on the History of the Smaller Stretch Glass Companies, given by John Rowe was very interesting. I learned a lot about these companies and John talked about them in a very engaging way! We all seemed to drool over the Club Display tables (check out all the eye candy in the article about this display). It is so nice that members are willing to bring their treasured pieces with them so we can all see them. I want to thank everyone who contributed to this. Later that afternoon, Millie and I did some more shopping. I was amazed at how many antique malls there are in such close proximity to the hotel. After wearing ourselves out, we returned to the hotel to get ready for the Burn's auction. I really hadn't planned on buying much at the auction, but I ended up with a ton of pretties! (now I have to figure out where to put them).

Saturday started bright and early with our Show and Share-Unusual, Interesting, Rare, and/or Favorite Glass. Several people brought in some awesome pieces for this. Afterwards we had another wonderful lunch with a chance to sit around and visit with everyone. Next on the agenda was our Banquet. I was sitting at the table jabbering, when I heard Vickie call my name. Since I wasn't paying attention, I had no idea what she wanted. I was floored when I realized I had won the Banquet Raffle!! I chose the Fenton Wisteria Rib plate as my treasure. Vickie had me draw the next winner, which was Billy Shreck. He picked his prize and drew the next winner, Bob Henkel. Unfortunately I didn't see which prizes they got, I was still in shock over winning the Wisteria piece.

The speaker for our Banquet this year was John Weishar from Island Mold & Machinery. He went into great detail on how moulds were made (and used). He even brought a small one with him, so we could handle it and understand how they fit together and how they are used. We finished off the evening with our traditional White Elephant sale. I always have so much fun during this. We all laugh, cut up and goad our friends into buying stuff!

I think we were all sad to see the end of Convention. If you weren't able to come, I hope you can make it next summer! There are already so many wonderful plans in the works for our 50th Convention. If you can only make it to one Convention in your life, this will be the one you don't want to miss!!





## Highlights from Our Convention Auction

*By Cal Hackeman*

During our convention, Burns Auction Service provided an auction of over 300 items, most of which were stretch glass. The items in the auction ranged from readily available to rare. Some generated lots of interest while others were bargains – something for everyone in a very classic sense. It is good to look at the stretch glass in an auction, and the resulting sales, from several points of view – which companies' stretch glass was offered for sale, which colors were available, what shapes were most (and least) prevalent, and finally, what were the prices.

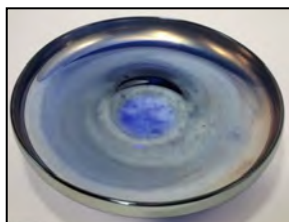
This auction included at least one item from each of 8 of the 9 stretch glass-making companies; no stretch glass was offered from Jeannette, one of the smaller producers of stretch glass. This is not surprising as Jeannette produced a limited line, mostly bowls. Often collectors pass up Jeannette stretch glass be-



cause it was primarily made in a marigold color. Passing up Jeannette is, in my opinion, a mistake because they achieved some of the very best stretch effect of any of the companies, but that's a choice everyone needs to make for themselves. This auction did not provide an opportunity to add to our collections of Jeannette stretch glass, so we didn't have to decide if we were interested in buying it or not.

Fenton led the pack in this auction with 171 items including 15 dolphin items and 14 pieces of Melon Rib. Imperial was next with 75 pieces, including a larger than usual selection of "Jewels" vases, bowls and plates. There were 29 pieces from Diamond, 28 pieces by US Glass and 27 pieces produced by Northwood. Two lots came from the Lancaster production, three lots were from Vineland, and one lot was from Central. If you were looking for Fenton or Imperial stretch glass, you had a lot to choose from.

What colors of stretch glass do we normally see for sale? Did this auction hold true to what we 'usually' find? There were 96 lots of 'blue' stretch glass which included Celeste Blue, blue, aquamarine, Blue Ice, Cobalt, Royal Lustre and Aqua Opal. The next most frequent color was 'green'.



*(Continued on page 9)*

## Highlights from Our Convention Auction

(Continued from page 8)



The remaining 180-plus lots included 36 of amber, marigold, Tangerine, and Pink Marigold, 33 lots of topaz and Mandarin Yellow and 28 lots featuring the Imperial Jewels' colors (typically referred to as Pearl...).

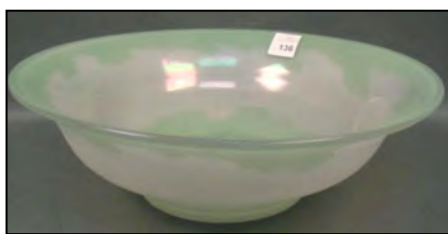


'Pink' stretch glass comprised 23 lots and included examples of Velva Rose, Rose Ice, and pink, along with 23 lots of 'red' stretch glass including ruby, Ruby Ice and Ruby Lustre.

There were 21 lots of 'crystal' stretch glass including Iris Ice, Persian Pearl, Venetian and crystal and another 21 lots of 'purple' including Wistaria and deep purple stretch glass.



As might be expected, only 3 lots featured US Glass decorated stretch glass. There was one example of red/blue Pamona, one example of green/white Cumula and one example of crystal with black stripes.



(Continued on page 10)

## Highlights from Our Convention Auction

*(Continued from page 9)*

Attempting to report on the shapes of stretch glass offered in any auction is a challenge because there were many shapes of stretch glass made over the 50-plus years of production. For our purposes, I'll use generic shapes along with a few special purpose categories. Bowls were the most prevalent shape offered for sale making up 90 lots, next came vases in 60 lots (this is unusually high because of the number of Imperial Jewels vases in this auction) followed by 38 lots of candleholders, 28 comports, 24 lots of vanity or smoking items, 16 lots of tumblers, mugs and/or pitchers, and 10 lots of plates. Special purpose items were offered in 52 lots and included a bell, 12 center handled servers, 4 cheese & cracker sets, a lamp shade, 5 lemon servers (not all topaz), 4 card trays/salvers, 8 pair of creamers/sugars, plus 1 additional creamer and 1 toothpick holder. Once again, there was something for everyone.



Finally, how were the prices? The top ten stretch glass lots each sold between \$425 and \$800. More about that in a minute. Lots bringing between \$300 and \$400 numbered 8, followed by 17 lots with hammer prices between \$200 and \$250. In the under \$200 but at least \$100 category there were 63 lots. Another 44 lots were hammered down at under \$100 but more than \$50 and 113 lots sold between \$25 and \$50 each. For the bargain hunters, there were 82 lots which sold for \$5 to \$25 each.

What items were in the top 10 lots? A Pearl Amethyst rose bowl with outstanding iridescence and an unusual shape and a Chesterfield Ruby Ice tumbler took the top spots at \$800 each. A second Chesterfield Ruby Ice tumbler brought \$750 and a Pearl Amethyst Jack-In-The-Pulpit vase, with outstanding stretch effect, brought \$650. The unusual Diamond Cobalt Blue candleholder/vase found a new home for \$625 and a bowl in the same color sold for \$600. The Tangerine oval center handled server realized \$550 followed by a Diamond marigold matchbox holder at \$500. The final item in the top 10 was a Pearl Amethyst vase which sold for \$425.



Other notable lots included the US glass crystal with black lines decoration cupped bowl at \$350, a damaged Celeste Blue shaving mug for \$300, a Fenton Twin Dolphin diamond optic fan vase at \$250, two silver decorated Blue Lustre bowls at \$225 and \$200, a Wistaria bowl for \$225, a red/blue Pamona comport for \$200, and the Northwood blue almond dish also for \$200.



Thank you to all the bidders who placed winning bids totaling over \$30,000. We look forward to bringing you an even more exciting auction in conjunction with our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary convention in 2024.

## Our Un-Sung Hero

*By Becki Ann Selby*

I want to personally thank our club photographer, Dave Shetlar. He goes above and beyond a normal volunteer donating numerous hours taking photos and documenting “new” stretch glass. Without his time consuming work, we would not have our yearly calendar or many of the beautiful pictures shown in our Quarterly.

One example of his dedication was staying up past midnight on the last day of Convention, putting all of his new pictures on a flash drive. When this was finished, he trekked down the hall sliding it under my hotel room door in order for me to have it before I had to head home.



## New Finds

*By Vickie Rowe*

As promised in the last edition of the newsletter, here is our new find. We brought it to the convention for the “Unusual, Interesting, Rare, and/or Favorite Glass” seminar on Saturday. We thought we had a rare Egyptian Lustre Bowl made by Diamond. Dave Shetlar asked if we had held it up to the light. We hadn’t, so imagine our surprise when we discovered that our bowl was Midnight Wisteria in color, and even more rare than we thought!



## Convention Finds

*By Pat Halliburton*

We had lots of fun at the Stretch Glass Convention in Denver, PA last week. Great people, cool weather, great antiquing, and beautiful scenery on the drive up and back.

I found this Fenton Stretch Glass #621 vase in Ruby Red with flared and crimped top in a mall on the way up. The Imperial Art Glass cylinder vase in Smoke/Amethyst over crystal glass signed NUART was one successful win from the convention auction.

I encourage everyone to try to attend next year in August.



## VP Message

Living in Washington I don't have many opportunities to gather with other stretch glass lovers, so I really enjoyed the convention! It's also my only chance to attend a live auction. My sister describes me as a kid in a candy store! This year I was lucky enough to come home with an item from my stretch glass bucket list. Early in my collecting journey I found a pair of US glass #151 crystal candleholders with black stripes. I had no idea they were an unusual or rare item, I just loved the way

they looked! Ever since, I have been trying to get a matching bowl. It finally happened at the Burns' convention auction. I haven't identified the bowl, but I know it looks good with the candleholders!

I didn't arrive in Denver until the day of the convention, so I didn't find a lot of stretch glass left in the local shops. I did find a treasure at Renningers on Sunday though! Although they aren't stretch glass, I think these are a pair of Diamond's Royal Lustre vases, which are a part of the stretch glass line. Another love at first sight moment!

There are still pieces to be found at home too. These topaz colognes and puff box (Fenton, #53, diamond optic) called to me at a local antique mall. I am happy to keep searching!

Hope many of you will be able to join us at convention next year! Until then, good luck with your own searches.

*Deb Brateng*

Deb Brateng, Vice-President



## Convention Virtual Experience

By Vickie Rowe

Once again, Jeff Hodges sat in the front row of the convention room holding up his cell phone, zooming the seminars and business meeting. There were several people who took advantage of this.. The feedback from those who did was positive and we look forward to more zooming with us next year. Thanks again, Jeff!

## Thank You for Your Convention Donations

By Vickie Rowe

At this time, we would like to thank the many individuals who made contributions to offset the cost of the convention. Several members also made donations to the Bill Crowl Memorial Education Fund. Your generosity helps to ensure that we can continue to hold conventions, as well as educate others about stretch glass. In no particular order, our thanks go to Mary Elda Arrington, Sharon Mizell, Brian & Mary Nagle, Lance Hilkene & Pat Gabree, Dennis Groome, Cal Hackeman & Jeff Hodges, and Bob Henkel. In the previous newsletter, we acknowledged those who made contributions towards the welcome reception, the lunches on Friday and Saturday, and the banquet.

## Stretch Out Discussions

By Becki Ann Selby

Once again, during Convention, we were provided wonderful binders containing all the information from our Stretch Out Discussions. I didn't get a chance to pour over these as much as I would have liked, but all I can say is "Wow!"

They are a true treasure of well laid out info. I highly recommend everyone that has a chance to spend some time reading these.





**The Stretch Glass Society extends condolences to Stephanie Bennett on the loss of her husband, Tom, on August 21, 2023. Tom was very supportive of and encouraging to Steph when it came to stretch glass. He enjoyed dinner served with stretch glass when stretch glass enthusiasts were invited to dinner by Steph.**

## The 2024 SGS Board of Directors

*By Vickie Rowe*

There are some familiar faces on the board and we're happy to welcome the new officers and board members. There are former directors in new positions, enabling the board to continue to work smoothly. Thank you to Cal Hackeman, who was a one person Nominating Committee, and worked tirelessly to encourage members to join the board. Welcome everyone!

- John and Vickie Rowe, Co-Presidents
- Debra Brateng, Vice President
- Joan Halliburton, Secretary
- Cal Hackeman, Treasurer
- Mary Elda Arrington, Director of Stretch Out Discussions
- Robert Henkel, Director of Fundraising
- Jeff Hodges, Director of Newsletter
- Dave Shetlar, Director of Social Media
- William Shreck, Director of Souvenirs
- Patrick Steele, Director of Advertising
- Tim Cantrell, Director of Outreach

Board Appointed Team Members:

- Brian Brennan, Webmaster
- Becki Ann Selby, Editor of Newsletter
- Gary Sullivan, Membership Coordinator

## History of the Small Companies that made Stretch Glass

*By Vickie Rowe*

John Rowe kicked off Friday morning with a seminar entitled "Stretch Glass – the Small Guys." Many stretch glass enthusiasts know the history of the larger companies, such as Fenton, Imperial and Northwood. However, as John shared with us, it is often very challenging to find out any information on the smaller glass companies. In his presentation, he shared the history of four of the companies who made stretch glass in smaller quantities: Vineland, Central, Lancaster and Jeanette. He concentrated on the history of the companies, as opposed to the glass they made. Participants found the presentation interesting and educational.



## FY2024 Action Plan

At the annual meeting, Vickie briefly spoke about the FY2024 Action Plan, which the board voted to approve at the July, 2023 meeting. Handouts of the plan were distributed to all at the meeting. It was also sent by email prior to the convention and is posted in the members' only section of the website. It's important to note that the Stretch Glass Society has many strengths, such as *The Quarterly* newsletter, the stretch out discussions, the annual convention, the on-line pricing guide on *Hooked on Carnival* website. There are also some challenges, such as our outreach efforts by various methods: social media presence, advertising and promotion of stretch glass. In addition,



there is also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration which will be chaired by Cal Hackeman and Jeff Hodges. There are also plans to have a stretch glass souvenir for this event. If you would like to help out, feel free to reach out to any of the board members. "Many hands make light work."

## A Most Unusual Piece of Fenton Glass

*By Vickie Rowe*

Bryan & Mary Nagle brought this crystal, white and green "vase" for the seminar on unusual glass. Although it isn't iridized, they knew it came from the Fenton Gift Shop. They encouraged members to come up with a name for this creation. There were several submissions of interesting and creative names. At the banquet, Mary read all the names and then announced that Billy Shreck was the winner with "Fentonia."





## November Stretch Out Discussions

**Fenton 'Late Production' stretch glass pieces in the pinks**  
will be the topic of our *Stretch Out* Discussion on  
**Thursday, November 9, 2023**  
at 8 pm Eastern, 7 Central, 6 Mountain & 5 Pacific Time.



All are welcome to join this Zoom meeting  
Non-members can email [info@stretchglassociety.org](mailto:info@stretchglassociety.org) to receive the Zoom invitation.

Photos will be available on our website,  
[stretchglassociety.org](http://stretchglassociety.org) one week before the meeting.

Many who have joined our discussions are thanking us for identifying their recent purchase.

## Cal Hackeman is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic:** The Stretch Glass Society's Stretch Out Discussion on Late Period Stretch Glass in "the pinks"

**Time:** Nov. 9, 2023 08:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9196004533?pwd=aFJ5WkppcFl6SXZDTUIOa3ZjTzk4QT09>

**Meeting ID:** 919 600 4533      **Passcode:** SGisgreat

### One tap mobile

- + 13126266799,,9196004533#,,, \*832431513# US (Chicago)
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| + 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)      | + 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) |
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*Cal*

## A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

Nancy Duffield from Alabama

Nicholas and James Angle from Pennsylvania

John & Ruth Ann Cox from Ohio

Andrew Dellinger from Virginia

Donnis Headley from Pennsylvania

Anthony Burgess from Massachusetts

## Imperial Uncommon Lines....#725, #727, #728, & #313

By Dave Shetlar, Director of Social Outreach

The other week, Renee and I discovered a nicely priced Imperial muffin dish (Imperial's name for what collectors call a banana tray or bread bowl) in plain Iris Ice (not shown, but like Figs. 22 & 23) at a local antique mall. After getting it home, I realized that I'd not discussed the Imperial lines that have straight-sided bowls and plates. The vast majority of Imperial plates and bowls are what we collectively call "wide panel," (actually a couple of lines are involved) and "Chesterfield" (the #600 line with external narrow panels).

First, let me define these lines. All have six, eight, or ten panels with straight edges, so that the items look like they are hexagonal, octagonal or pentagonal in shape. The #725 items have a pair of little handles (e.g., Figs. 2, 5, 20, 24) and this number includes the heart-handled server (Figs. 26-29). The #727 line has the panels with straight sides and flat, snap-bases (e.g., Figs. 1, 4, 6-8, 14, 14, 18). Finally, we have the #728 line that uses a bowl with a four-tabbed foot (Figs. 10-12, 21-23).

Unfortunately, all three of the 700 lines were called "Molly" by Hazel Marie Weatherman in her book, and Molly seems to be the depression glass term used. The #313 line is what I learned was called "spiral optic" or with Weatherman using "twisted optic" which seems to have stuck with depression glass collectors (Figs. 9, 13, 17 & 25).

Apparently, these lines became most popular in the depression glass era when the pieces were listed in crystal, green and pink. I believe that the stretch pieces were made at the end of Imperial's stretch glass making, likely the late 1920s into the early 1930s. The pieces most commonly come in Iris Ice (crystal) and pink with marigold or smoky iridescence (the color name for this hasn't been identified). The stretch pieces also come in much limited forms compared to what is shown for the entire lines in some of the catalog pages. Most lines have small



Fig. 1

serving pieces (i.e., mayonnaise and cracker sets) larger bowls, plates and muffin dishes. The pieces also often have gold decoration, or decals. I can't recall seeing any with cuttings that are common on earlier stretch pieces, especially the handled servers.

The #313 pieces appear to have started production in the middle of Imperial's stretch manufacturing, as you can find the little mayonnaise dish and underplate (Fig. 13, plate has a depression for the dish foot) and the cheese dish and underplate (Fig. 9, plate is the same) in Iris Ice, Rose Ice (marigold), and Blue Ice (smoke). Some of these also have floral or balloons cuttings. A large 10-inch diameter bowl is known (Fig. 17) which suggests that there should be a 14-inch underplate which is shown in some of the catalog pages. The bowl and underplate are well known in carnival marigold and smoke, but finding one with the stretch effect is very rare. I've included an example of the little covered candy box in smoke (Fig. 25, #645/3 in catalog pages). It only has satiny iridescence because the candy box isn't



Fig. 2

reshaped after being iridized. Apparently, when the spiral optic pattern was applied to another numbered piece, the item will be designated by its original number followed by the "/3" listing.

All three of the #700 lines are only listed in the original Imperial catalogs using the first three numbers with an additional number (usually 6 or 8 to designate the size) and a capital letter to designate the shape. So, Fig. 7 would be a #7278X Flower Bowl, but Fig. 23 would be a #7288E Muffin Dish. The shapes found with the stretch effect appear to be pretty limited. "A" is listed as "comfort" (only for the footed #728) or "fruit bowl" (for the other lines) which means the bowl shape is "normal" (as it comes out of the mold, Figs. 5, 10, 11). "D" means the bowl was flattened down into a plate (Figs. 18-21). "E" is the two-sides-up or muffin dish (Figs. 22-24). "W"



Fig. 11

means that the bowl sides have been straightened into a 45-degree angle (Fig. 8), and "X" means that the bowl has a flat rim (Figs. 7 & 12). The other designations – "I"=rolled rim, "S"=square shape, "Y"=rose bowl shape, "Z"=cupped nut bowl shape – have not been documented by me in stretch though they are commonly seen in non-iridized depression glass. These other shapes could occur in stretch and if you find or have one, I'd like to document it!

I'd also like to draw your attention to Fig. 8. I've seen two of these bowls that are in a very pale blue-green color with a light smoke iridescence. This one would be #7278W. The other bowl was in the normal shape (not shown) which would have the designation of "A" and the bowl had a gold floral decoration. Notice that the highly decorated fruit bowl (Fig. 28) is also in the pale blue-green color, a real rarity.



Fig. 8

Remember that the #725 handled servers come in the fruit tray form (Figs. 26, 28, 29) where the rim is pulled up and the sandwich server form (Fig. 27) that is flattened down. These servers generally are obtainable in the Iris Ice and pink, and most have elaborate gold accents, with colorful decal decorations of flowers or fruits with flowers.



Fig. 9



Fig. 7



Fig. 28



Fig 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11



Fig. 12



Fig. 13



Fig. 14



Fig. 15



Fig. 16



Fig. 17



Fig. 18



Fig. 19

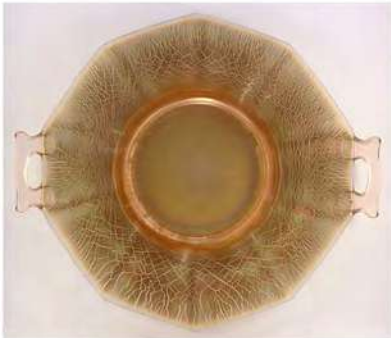


Fig. 20



Fig. 21



Fig. 22



Fig. 23



Fig. 24



Fig. 25



Fig. 26



Fig. 27



Fig. 28



Fig. 29

## Highlights from The Stretch Glass Society Board of Directors' Meetings, conducted via Zoom on June 15 & July 20, 2023

Treasurer's Report: As of 6/15/23, there is \$53,718.72 in the bank. \$25,000 of this total is invested in CD's. The first CD is up for renewal and Cal will move forward with that action.

Membership Update: As of 6/15/23 there are 153 memberships.

### Old Business

- Brochures—Updated brochures are ready and will be available at convention and can be mailed to members at their request.
- 2024 Calendars—Calendars are beautiful and will be distributed at the convention (copies will be mailed to members not in attendance with their renewal memberships in November). Dave and Renee Shetlar have made a donation to purchase additional calendars that will be given away and used for outreach and publicity.
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Souvenirs—There are 2 options for a commemorative piece of glass. The first is using the topaz opal bowls from the current souvenir inventory and having them decorated by Frances Burton. Tim Cantrell is exploring the other option. He is communicating with Mosser glass about producing a new piece of stretch glass using one of the club's molds.
- The SGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary—Cal Hackeman proposed a committee to plan a yearlong publicity campaign/events to promote stretch glass. He and Jeff Hodges have volunteered to chair the committee and would coordinate with others to execute the plan. The motion to accept the offer and allocate funds in the budget was unanimously approved. At the July meeting Cal presented a detailed draft plan for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The plan was discussed and approved. It will be presented to membership at the annual business meeting.
- Convention update—Final budget has been approved. Planning is complete and we are ready to welcome everyone to this year's convention in Denver, PA.
- Social Media—Dave Shetlar plans to merge the official The SGS page The Stretch Glass Society FB Group page so that double postings are not necessary. He is also still planning to create an Instagram page for The SGS.

### New Business

- 2024 Action Plan—Vickie Rowe presented the action plan and requested feedback. It was suggested that the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration be added as a separate line item. At the July meeting, the updated plan was approved for presentation at the annual business meeting.
- Nominating Committee—Cal has a full slate of candidates to put forward at convention to fill all open positions. Vickie is requesting help with creating job descriptions to help with future recruitment. We also discussed ways to increase active membership engagement.
- 2024 Budget—Vickie submitted the budget which was approved. A small deficit is projected for the year. It is viewed as an investment in our mission. The SGS has been running surpluses for the last several years, so it would be spending money allocated, but not used in previous budgets to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The budget will be presented at the annual business meeting held at convention.
- Audit Committee—Dave Shetlar, Les Rowe and Pam Steinbach will be the audit committee and review the BOD meeting minutes and treasurer's reports to ascertain that everything is reconciled.



*Deb Brateng*

Submitted by Deb Brateng  
Secretary, Stretch Glass Society

## Banquet Speaker

*By John Rowe*

Our banquet speaker was John Weishar, president of Island Mould & Machine Company from Wheeling, WV. John gave a short history of his company, which was founded by his grandfather. John and his brother, Tom, are leading the company in modern times. Included in his presentation were a mould, video and explanations on how moulds are made and produced. This process has evolved from hand-made moulds into manufacturing with modern technology using computer aided designs. He provided interesting stories and family history. After his presentation, club members were encouraged to come forward, look at and handle the mould components that he brought, and more closely observe how they fit together.



## The Stretch Glass Society

a non-profit 501 (c)3 organization founded on April 20, 1974



# 2024

Featuring the Bill Crowl Memorial Collection

## 2024 Stretch Glass Calendar Update

By Cal Hackeman

Everyone who attended the 2023 SGS Convention in August received their 2024 calendars, once again filled with great photos of stretch glass. This calendar features the Bill Crowl Memorial Stretch Glass Collection.

All members who did not attend the 2023 SGS convention will receive their calendars with their 2024 annual dues billing in November. Each member will receive 1 calendar.

Thanks to the generosity of Dave & Renée Shetlar, members may request additional calendars to share with friends, family members, other collectors, etc. By sharing our 2024 calendar with others you are helping to promote stretch glass and The Stretch Glass Society. Please send an email to [redacted] or call [redacted] to request your additional calendars prior to October 15<sup>th</sup>. The additional calendars will be sent to you in November. Thanks, in advance, for helping us to promote and preserve stretch glass.



## Bill Crowl Memorial Stretch Glass Collection Receives Donations

By Cal Hackeman

Pat Halliburton generously donated several examples of stretch glass to The Collection at the 2023 convention. The items donated are:

- Northwood Jade Blue Plate #631
- Fenton Grecian Gold Candleholders #314
- Fenton Celeste Blue Nut Cup #923
- Fenton Velva Rose Lemon Tray #66
- Fenton Wisteria Dolphin Center Handled Server, SGS Souvenir 1998

Thank you Pat for thinking of us and helping to build this Collection which is used to promote and preserve stretch glass and The Stretch Glass Society.

We also received a copy of the 1996 photo album prepared by Bob and Helen Jones from the stretch glass dolphins display at the Manassas, VA convention that year. The album is a wonderful documentation of nearly every dolphin item known at that time as they were all on display at the convention. Thank you, Mary Elda, for providing us with this great resource for the Collection.



# STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2023-2024)

**OFFICERS:**



**CO-PRESIDENTS:**  
Vickie & John Rowe (2025)



**SECRETARY:**  
Joan Halliburton



**VICE-PRESIDENT:**  
Debra Brateng (2024)



**TREASURER:**  
Cal Hackeman (2024)

**DIRECTORS:**



**Director of Social Media:**  
Dave Shetlar (2025)



**Director of Newsletter:**  
Jeff Hodges (2024)



**Director of Fundraising:**  
Bob Henkel (2025)



**Director of Souvenirs:**  
William Shreck (2024)



**Director of Stretch Out Discussions:**  
Mary Elda Arrington (2024)



**Director of Advertising and Promotion:** Patrick Steele (2024)



**Director of Outreach**  
Tim Cantrell (2025)



**Membership Administrator**  
(appointed by the Board of Directors)  
Gary Sullivan



**Newsletter Editor**  
(appointed by the Board of Directors)  
Becki Ann Selby  
[critterfarm101@zoomtown.com](mailto:critterfarm101@zoomtown.com)



**Webmaster**  
(Selected by Board of Directors)  
Brian P. Brennan



## Thank you from the Nominating Committee

By Cal Hackeman

As Vickie reports elsewhere in this Quarterly, we elected several members to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting in August. I would like to thank each of you who spoke with me during the past few months about possibly serving as an officer or director of The Stretch Glass Society. Even though not everyone I spoke to was able to say 'yes' to joining the Leadership Team, it was a pleasure to talk with you and get your input on finding nominees for these positions.

We continue to have a dynamic team of stretch glass enthusiasts who are committed to continuing and elevating the promotion and preservation of stretch glass, to ensure that stretch glass will not be forgotten in the years ahead. Directors and Officers serve two-year terms, with half of the Board being elected each year. Now is the time for you to start thinking about serving on the Board of Directors in the future – maybe as a candidate in 2025 or later. We are an all-volunteer organization and we rely on the skills and talents of our members to carry on our mission.

Please think about how your skills and talents – whether they be in social media, accounting, public relations, motivation, organization, or something else, could benefit The Stretch Glass Society and the community of stretch glass enthusiasts (and would be enthusiasts, if only they knew more about stretch glass). If you would like to talk about how you can get involved in some of our activities or as a potential Officer or Director, please feel free to call any of the Officers or Directors listed in this Quarterly or call, text or email me, Cal Hackeman, at [REDACTED] or drop by for a visit at [REDACTED]. As a past Director, Treasurer, President and all-around stretch glass enthusiast, I can help you understand how you can help us achieve our mission of promoting and preserving stretch glass. Whether you have 1 hour or 1 day a month to devote to stretch glass-related activities, let's talk about how to make the most of it while making sure you are having fun and enjoying what you are doing. I look forward to hearing from you.



### WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED THIS ISSUE OF THE STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY'S QUARTERLY!

*Thank you for being a member of the Society and supporting our on-going activities. If you are not a member, we invite you to join our Society and enjoy the full benefits of membership and/or make a contribution to further the promotion and preservation of stretch glass. Contributions may be made via our website or by mail to Treasurer, The Stretch Glass Society, [REDACTED]*

### ABOUT THE STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY:

The Stretch Glass Society is an avid group of Stretch Glass collectors, buyers, sellers, auctioneers, and researchers. We are a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. Our goals are to promote and preserve this beautiful glass and the history of its manufacture as part of our American heritage. We undertake activities to interest and educate all who seek to learn about stretch glass and encourage the use of this unique glassware home entertaining and decorating. Stretch Glass was produced in America from 1912 through the mid-1930s and from 1980 until 2011. We are the only organization dedicated exclusively to the promotion and study of iridescent stretch glass.

Membership in the Stretch Glass Society is open to all. Annual dues for members who receive communications by email, including the Quarterly newsletter, are \$18 per year; annual dues for members who receive the newsletter by mail are \$28 per year (higher if outside the US). A membership may include all persons residing at one address and renews annually on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Membership benefits include:

- A subscription to The Stretch Glass Quarterly, which includes recent discoveries and transactions, and pieces of stretch glass.
- Full access to [www.stretchglassociety.org](http://www.stretchglassociety.org) including the member-only resource pages that contain a significant collections of catalogs and other materials from the Fenton Art Glass Company, plus over 150 past issues of The Stretch Glass Quarterly
- An Annual Convention and Stretch Glass Show, complete with educational displays and seminars.
- Opportunities to network with over 200 stretch glass enthusiasts and receive assistance with identification of stretch glass.
- Invitations to Stretch-Out Discussions, held virtually 4-6 times annually to discuss specific aspects of stretch glass.

**BECOME A MEMBER TODAY! Complete form or join online at [www.stretchglassociety.org](http://www.stretchglassociety.org)**

Please print legibly and place an "X" in the box for each line of information that you DO NOT want published in the annual SGS Member Directory.

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to The Stretch Glass Society. Mail form and check to:  
SGS Treasurer, The Stretch Glass Society, [REDACTED]