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THE STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY

QUARTERLY



NOVEMBER 2007

'Bargain' SGS Quarterly to be offered via Email!

By Stephanie Leonard Bennett

A proposal to offer the *SGS Quarterly* newsletter on the website or via email was first discussed informally at the business meeting at convention this past August. The benefits of either option would be:

- dollar savings for the club by reducing the cost of paper, printing and postage,
- reduction in delivery effort, with less time spent at the printer and post office, collating, labeling, and stamping, and
- improved product for those who want full color (too expensive for the club to print), or who prefer paperless storage.

The idea of website download was tabled for now for a couple of reasons. First, most people wanting an electronic newsletter would prefer it be sent to them rather than having the impetus on them to go to the website and retrieve it themselves. Also, the logistics of access to the online newsletter to dues-paying members only aren't yet worked out with our web master.

The option of an emailed newsletter was received favorably by all who commented at the business meeting. Since the club would save money with electronic delivery, it was thought that this savings should be passed on to members choosing this option. This proposal was outlined in general terms in the August *SGS Quarterly*, with request for feedback. The further feedback that Cal received was all positive.

Therefore, the Executive Board has voted to offer the membership an opportunity to reduce the amount of their dues thereby saving dollars for both themselves and the club by receiving the *SGS Quarterly* via email. This new measure is outlined as Option 2 on page five.

PLEASE NOTE: For those of you who don't own computers, or just love getting mail from the post office – don't despair! You can still receive The *SGS Quarterly* as you always have. Current delivery is described here as Option 1.

Option 1: Paper delivery via the USPS

- The "look" of the newsletter remains as it is now with black and white photos/graphics except for the one to two color photo pages that accompany the technical articles.
- The dues for this option remain as they are currently -- \$28 annually for U.S. residents and \$30/US Money Order for International residents. These dues dollars provide the necessary funds for the supplies, duplication and USPS mailing of the newsletter.

(continued on page 5 --'BARGAIN' SGS QUARTERLY)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Members —

A few months ago I communicated with you regarding the need for volunteer leaders to carry on the mission of the SGS. As we reported in the last newsletter, Pam Steinbach was re-elected as a Director at the Convention and now I am pleased to report that Les Rowe has joined the leadership team as a Director. Les will be working with Pam on Convention-related planning and events. Please join me in thanking Les for being willing to help carry on the work of the SGS. At the end of December, we will have two additional opportunities for members to join the leadership team when Dave and Renée Shetlar retire from the Executive Board after many years of service to the SGS. Stephanie Bennett, currently VP, has volunteered to take on the responsibility of publishing the **SGS Quarterly**; now we are hopeful there will be a couple of members who volunteer to assist us as a Director and as Secretary. We are in the process of re-aligning responsibilities among the leadership team so as to more equitably share the leadership of the Society. This will be a year of transition for our Society; I hope we can count on **you** to be a positive force in that transition as we experience a significant change in the leadership team, embrace new ideas and start new traditions.

And, speaking of embracing new ideas, beginning in 2008 you will be able to receive your **SGS Quarterly** via email in full color. Please read all about this exciting change and what it means to you (and your checkbook) elsewhere in this newsletter. We also continue to enhance our website, most notably with the planned addition of all past issues of the **SGS Quarterly**. This will provide members with a significant reference source on iridescent stretch glass and all at no additional cost. Yes, we are changing to meet the needs of all our members and to attract new members from the collecting, auctioneering, and other communities with an interest in iridescent stretch glass.

It is that busy holiday time again – recovering from Halloween, preparing for Thanksgiving and for the holiday season that follows. The holidays are a wonderful time to show, share and use our stretch glass, whether it is that special vintage piece or the latest club souvenir. I hope you will have opportunities to share your love for iridescent stretch glass with your family and friends – especially the younger generation. We are the best ambassadors for iridescent stretch glass and the SGS; we are the ones who have the passion for this wonderful glass and we are the ones who must instill an interest in it so that there will be continuing enthusiasm for it in the years to come. I hope everyone will enjoy their glass, share their passion and have a pleasant and safe holiday season.

Happy collecting (and entertaining),

Cal Hackeman

Cal Hackeman
President

STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Cal Hackeman, [redacted]
VICE-PRESIDENT: Stephanie Leonard Bennett, [redacted]
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TREASURER: Nancy Waln, [redacted]

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Les Rowe, OH
Dave Shetlar, OH
Jim Steinbach, OH
Pam Steinbach, OH

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Barbara Nunes, [redacted]

DIRECTORY UPDATES & CORRECTIONS

Jim (Paul) & Ann Midlam..... [redacted]

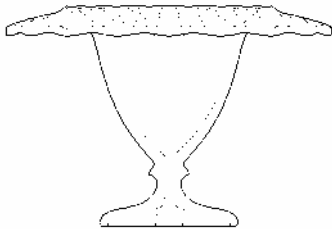
SGS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Membership directories are only provided to new members as part of their membership packet; they are not automatically mailed each year to members. For a current copy of the Directory, contact Renée Shetlar via email [redacted] x at or via phone at [redacted]. Please indicate which version—hard copy mailed to your postal address or PDF copy emailed to your email address (please include your email address).

U.S. Glass Line #310 Revisited

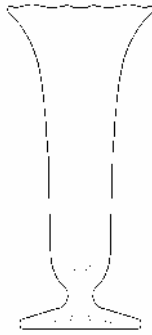
By Dave Shetlar

I've always thought that one of the most elegant stretch glass lines is the #310 line made by U.S. Glass. This glass has four to six sets of *external*, raised double ridges that typically run from the base to the upper edge. The rays form a gentle scalloped rim in most pieces. In this line, U.S. Glass also included several "open work" pieces. These are forms that have a lattice of pierced areas



along the upper rim. It is obvious that these open work pieces were not easy to make without leaving chips along the open areas' edges. And, over time, these delicate forms often end up with stress checks or cracks. It is apparent that U.S.

Glass used their #310 molds for a wide variety of glass treatments - crystal with cuttings, transparent colors, satin colors and stretch colors.



In the catalog pages reproduced by Fred Bickenheuser, in his *Tiffin Glassmasters Books I & II*, #310 pieces were occasionally paired with the tall candy jar having four sets of optic ribs. On page 75 of *Book II*, such a page illustrates an assortment of pieces showing a cut design. All are #310 pieces except one—this tall candy jar—it is labeled **#189**. The #189 line is also found in stretch effect, usually bowls and comports in unusual colors (e.g., olive green, light cobalt blue and purple). This line has

four sets of optic (*inside*) ribs and the rim is flat. On my website, (shetlartglass.com), I have these pieces identified as #314, a designation based on what Berry Wiggins had told me. He had reported that he had an old trade journal description of the #314 line as having a "straight" top. But, since I don't have access to Berry's research files, I have to go with the documentation I can verify myself—that is



Bickenheuser's reproduced US Glass catalog pages. Therefore, I will be revising this information on my website in the near future. The flat-topped/rimmed pieces will be given the **#189** designation and the "Unidentified Line" section will be revised to be considered as the #314 line. This line can also be confused with the #310. The #314 has four indistinct *optic* ribs, but the rims end in *scalloped* edges. Berry Wiggins designated this line as #315, but I have not personally seen catalog pages or other documentation that confirm this.



The #310 has four main bowl shapes, one with a snap base and simple rim and another with an open work top, and two that have three small feet and the ground marie bottoms. The snap base bowl has a 3 3/4-inch diameter base and usually is found in a flared rim (Fig. 1) and special rolled-rim (Figs. 2 & 3) form. Pink and green seem to be the only colors!

Has anyone seen this bowl in other colors? Catalog pages also suggest that there should be two more shapes of this bowl, a saucer shape (normal) and a raised, rolled rim form, but I've never seen this bowl in stretch with these shapes. I have only seen the open work bowl twice and, unfortunately, I haven't had my camera equipment! The open work rim of this bowl may be flat or slightly rolled down and it's usually about 11-inches in diameter. The larger, three-footed bowl is commonly listed as a "footed salad" in the catalog pages (Fig. 4). This same bowl may also be cupped in (Fig. 5) which is called a "nut bowl." The salad bowl is usually 8 1/2 to 8 3/4-inch wide. The smaller three-footed bowl is called a "whip cream" (Fig. 6) and is figured setting on a 6 1/2-inch wide plate (Fig. 27). Both the salad bowl and the whip cream have smoothly ground-marie bases. Remember that these pieces actually had a small knob on the base which was grasped during shaping and doping. This knob would have been needed to handle these pieces because of the three feed would have been difficult to grasp and handle without bending or misshaping them.

There are three #310 comport, low footed shapes, a simple plain-rimmed form (Fig. 10) and two open work forms (Figs. 11 & 15). The plain comport is usually gently flared and called a "low footed" comport in the catalog pages. This one has a 4 1/4-inch base and is 9-inches wide at the top. The larger open work comport (Figs. 11, 12 & 14) has a 5 3/8-inch base and can be 11 1/2 to 12-inches in top diameter. Though the catalog pages usually picture this with a rolled rim top, the rim has shown up being flat and slightly raised. All forms are difficult to find and its very rare to find the open work in perfect shape. The smaller open work comports (Figs. 15-17) most commonly have raised rims, but non-stretch pieces are often with rolled rims. This form has a 3 1/2-inch base and the upper rim can be 6 3/4 to 8 1/2-inch in diameter. The open work comports are most commonly found in green, topaz and crystal. The high footed #310 comport (Figs. 24-26) is one of the most commonly found forms and it can be found in all the normal colors (pink, green, blue, topaz and crystal). This comport has a 3 3/4-inch base and 6 1/2-inch wide top.

(continued on page 5 – U.S. Glass #310)



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

Option 2: Electronic delivery via email

- Members who select this option will receive their newsletters attached to an email as a PDF file (Adobe Reader must be installed on your computer and is free. A link to the free download will be provided in the emails for members' convenience).
- This PDF version will be totally in color and may either be read from the computer screen or printed out at the members' convenience. Members selecting this option will receive only the electronic version of the newsletter, (no paper copy).
- If members select this option, the dues will be reduced to \$18 for both U.S. and International residents (members living outside of the continental U.S. will still need to make payment in US dollars via US Money Order).

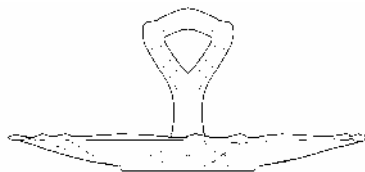
This new measure, providing a choice of two delivery/dues options, will become effective in 2008 and will be reflected in the renewal billing statements you receive in November. Please note that to become a permanent policy, it must be ratified by vote of the membership at the next annual business meeting at the 2008 convention.

If further clarification on this new policy and the two options is needed, please contact any of the Executive Board members.

Continued from page 3 – U.S. Glass #310

The #310 line also has a cheese and cracker set (Fig. 8). The cheese dish is the only #310 stemmed piece with a round foot and this is how it can be separated from the mayonnaise dish (Fig. 9). The cracker plate has the typical raised rim to hold the cheese dish and the base has an impressed star-burst pattern and is ground flat. The cheese dish has a 3 1/4-inch base and the plate is about 9 1/2-inch wide. The mayonnaise dish has a 3 1/2-inch base and a 6 1/4 to 6 1/2-inch wide top. The whipped cream and mayonnaise dish can have matching ladles. The cheese and cracker set and mayonnaise dish are found in pink and green. The #310 covered candy jar is roughly diamond-shaped from a side view (Fig. 13) and the characteristic #310 rays are present on the lid and bottom. This jar has a 3 3/4-inch base, is about 7-inches wide and 8-inches tall and is usually found in blue.

The #310 handled server has a shield-shaped handle and six sets of rays and scallops. These are about 9 3/4-inches wide and found only in pink and green.



There are three #310 vases, one with a nice stemmed foot (Fig. 18) and two that many would mistake for a narrow bowl (Fig. 28). The stem footed vase comes in green and pink and is about 8 3/4-inches tall with a 3 1/2-inch base. The wide-based vases come in two sizes, the larger one has a 4 1/2-inch base and the smaller one has a 3-inch base. Both normally have a flared top, but they can have a

flattened top.

Finally, there are two #310 candleholders, but only the tall one (Figs. 19-21) is found with the stretch effect. This 9-inch tall candleholder is found in a wide array of colors including the opaque yellows and greens. I have seen the low #310 candleholders in satin and crystal colors and I have one set in crystal glass with a cold-applied iridescence. So, is there a low set in real stretch?



Theoretically, there should be more #310 pieces in stretch! The catalog pages show a tall basket and small novelty basket as well as a creamer and sugar set. I see the baskets in non-iridized glass and satin glass all the time. The creamer and sugar sets are also fairly commonly found, but never with the stretch effect. U.S. Glass did make a creamer and sugar set that looks like the right one, but it is actually the #314 line. This set shows up in the opaque yellow stretch but they are not common. An open work bonbon is also figured. This is a small bowl-shaped object with a more complicated openwork top area. I have this piece in crystal red-orange glass and I've seen it in satin glass colors. Where's the stretch glass one??



2008 Convention, Show & Sale Dates Announced

Mark your calendars for July 30 to August 1, 2008. Those are the dates for our next convention, show and sale which is, again, being held at the Comfort Inn in Marietta, Ohio.

Remember when we said last year that it would be important to make your hotel reservations early because the two Fenton collector clubs were also meeting in the area, back-to-back immediately following our gathering?? Well, for 2008, it will be **imperative** that you make those reservations at the Comfort Inn early! This year, the same clubs will be meeting, at the same time, immediately following the SGS, but we are all three congregating at the Comfort Inn! That's right, demand for rooms at convention headquarters will be hard to come by if you delay in making your reservations. Therefore, the hotel has begun accepting reservations for 2008 and it is strongly recommended that even if you are just thinking about going to convention, call and make your reservations! Their toll-free phone number is 1-800-537-6858 (local # is 740-374-8190). Be sure to let the hotel know you

are attending the Stretch Glass Society convention and that our negotiated room rate for a standard room is \$73.70 plus taxes.

We are already planning some very exciting things for '08 that you won't want to miss and will have updated information in the February issue of the **SGS Quarterly**. We look forward to seeing you there!

SGS Website to Offer Password Protected Access

In the works are a variety of improvements to the SGS website for both members and non-members. In an effort to provide the public a better "taste" of what the **SGS Quarterly** newsletter offers its membership, a sampling from recent issues will be posted for viewing by anyone visiting the website. **Quarterlys** selected for inclusion will be from previous years, not from the current membership year and chosen by the Executive Board.

Non-member access to the website will be limited to general information, including additional links, about iridescent stretch glass, to information about membership in the SGS and to this sampling of past newsletters. Members of the Society will have full access to the website with password protected access to areas such as ALL past **SGS Quarterlys**!

Passwords will be provided to all members when renewals or new member dues are received by the Treasurer. The password will be updated, at least, annually or as needed to maintain protected access to the website.

Anyone with suggestions or comments about the website is invited to send them to Cal Hackeman via email at [REDACTED] or via phone at [REDACTED].

Fenton Art Glass Continues Free Master Craftsman Seminars through December 2007

As several SGS and Fenton club members can attest, the Master Craftsman Seminar series offered by the Fenton company have been well worth the time! These seminars illustrate the skill of the "off hand" art glass artisan. For those not familiar with this term, it really means working the molten glass "by hand." Various effects are created by blowing the hot glass, applying threads or frit (small bits of glass) in contrasting colors and shaping the piece either totally free hand or by using a mould.

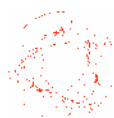


Dave Fetty and his apprentices often also add other decorative effects such as "hanging hearts," "pulled feathers," and spirals, or attach handles or a foot to the final shapes.

The Fenton Gift Shop website lists two remaining seminars for 2007—on November 10 and December 8. If you have never watched Fetty work, you won't want to miss out on one of these, potentially last, chances to attend!

Spaces are limited for these special sessions, but reservations may be made in advance. Call customer service at 1-800-319-7793, extension 311 or send an email to service@fentongiftshop.com. Indicate your preferred date and time. Three times are offered per date—10am, 11:30am and noon. Attendees are given an opportunity to participate in a silent auction of the pieces following each demonstration.

In the next edition of the **SGS Quarterly**, we will have details on a special display of Fetty off hand art glass pieces with an iridescent stretch effect and seminar presented by Fetty during the 2008 SGS convention!



Murphy Offers Additional Stretch Glass Pieces

Following the presentation by Kelsey Murphy and her partner, Bob Bomkamp, at this past SGS Convention banquet, items that she had sand-carved on stretch glass were sold to interested attendees. The number of items were limited, however, and several attendees left disappointed having not been first in line to buy one of the pieces.

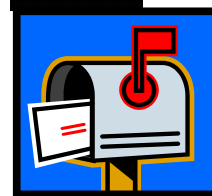
Well, Kelsey remembered that there were many more



buyers than she had pieces to offer at the time and has found two more pieces of stretch glass that she has carved and that are now available for purchase.

They are both

crimped bowl shapes, one in Ruby and one in Aubergine. For additional information, call Renée and Dave Shetlar at [REDACTED] or email at [REDACTED].



Q&A Letters & E-Mails

[Editor's Note: The following inquiries were received this past August & September]

Q : Greetings, I would like to ask your assistance in the identification of this piece. A fellow member of the Glass and Pottery Seller's Association stated that you may be able to help me and directed me to your web site. This is a lovely piece of glass and much nicer than these photographs indicate.

It has two mold seams. The exterior stem is smooth and the underside has 11 panels. It stands about 6" tall at the highest point and is 7 5/8" across at the widest point. The base is 3 1/4" across. The underside gold and reddish rings

remind me of the rings of Saturn. The only flaw I detect is a small nick on the underside base mold area.

I do appreciate any assistance you might be able to give me and thank you for your time.

Respectfully, Ruthann Chapin

A : *How nice! This is a Diamond Glassware comport. We have never seen it in a cobalt blue! It is most commonly found in blue (like Celeste Blue) and green (like Florentine Green) and I have seen it rarely in marigold and crystal.*

This one is pictured on my Diamond Glassware pages:

<http://www.shetlarglass.com/stretchglass/SGCompanies/Diamond/Diamond3.htm>



I have two images of the comport in green (the two on the right, second row). Unfortunately, the thumbnail images are too small to see the panels in the foot very well.

I would actually have expected to have someone find this comport in the Diamond Egyptian Lustre (black glass with multicolored iridescence) as there are very few cobalt blue pieces made by Diamond!

So, this is an old item made in the 1920s when Diamond was producing their stretch glass.

Great Find! Dave

Q : Hello, I am hoping you or someone could possibly help me. I was referred to this site by the moderator of our Vaseline Glass Group. I recently purchased a stretch glass Vaseline bowl, but do not know anything about it. It stands about 5 inches high and it is about 10 ½ inches in diameter.

Looking at your website I thought it could possibly be a Northwoods bowl, but the stem and base do not quite match. The next closest I found was the US Glass company, possibly #151 or #179.

Would you be able to perhaps suggest a book or someone who might be able to give me a little more information on this bowl. I am a newbie who just started collecting Vaseline glass... I loved this bowl because of the stretched glass look... it is very beautiful, at least to me!

Thank you for your help, Jayne Mancini

A : *Jayne, This is a U.S. Glass #314 footed bowl. If you go to our website, you will see this bowl in olive green (<http://shetlarglass.com/stretchglass/SGCompanies/USGlass/USGlass02.htm>). It has a smooth rim and "panels"*

on the inside. [Editor's Note: See Dave's article in this issue for NEW information!]

Our book is the only recent one specifically dealing with iridescent stretch glass and it is now out of print. Occasionally you can find it on-line or at



antiques malls. It is "American Iridescent Stretch Glass" by Madeley and Shetlar, published by Collector Books in 1998. There are a multitude of other reference books that you can find some iridescent stretch glass in. Most are on one (sometimes several) of the companies which produced this type of iridized glassware. There were only 9 companies that produced stretch glass (between 1916 and 1932/33), all American and all no longer in existence except for the Fenton Art Glass Company of Williamstown, WV.

Our website (shetlarglass.com) is the "update" for our stretch glass book. There were two other books done in the early 1970s by members of the Stretch Glass Society, but they are difficult to find. While these earlier books have some incorrect identifications, they have many very nice photos.

Thank you again for contacting us and the Stretch Glass Society.

Recent Stretch Glass Sold at Auction & eBay



NORTHWOOD, 18" "funeral" vase, blue, exceptionally scarce \$3,170
IMPERIAL, 7 ¼" tall, signed AG line, Pearl Amethyst, crimped vase \$ 160
FENTON, #232 candleholders, Grecian Gold \$ 118
IMPERIAL, #645 plate, red \$ 65
FENTON, 7" scarce vase, Celeste Blue (approx) \$ 350
FENTON, #318 candleholders, Velva Rose w/ scarce spiral under base \$ 39



Glass Calendar

"Holiday Banquet for the Eyes" November to January

WVA Museum of American Glass
Corner of Main Avenue and 2nd Street
Weston, WVA

For additional information, call 304-269-5006. Alas, out of the 50+ place settings on display – not one is stretch glass! Maybe someone can rectify that for next year's display.

"Designs of the Past that Dazzle Today!" Feb 2-3, 2008

South Florida Depression Glass Club 34th Annual American Glass, Pottery, Dinnerware Show & Sale
War Memorial Auditorium
800 NE 8th Street
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

For additional information, call 305-884-0335 or email fboches@cheshirecatantiques.com. There is an admission charge.



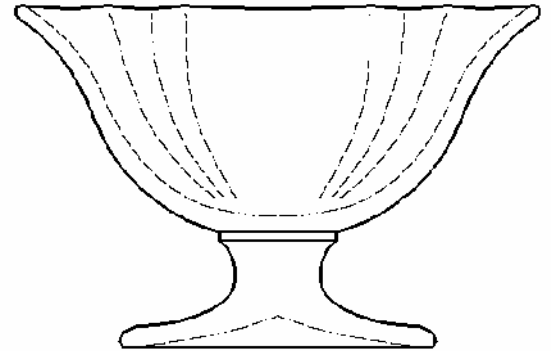
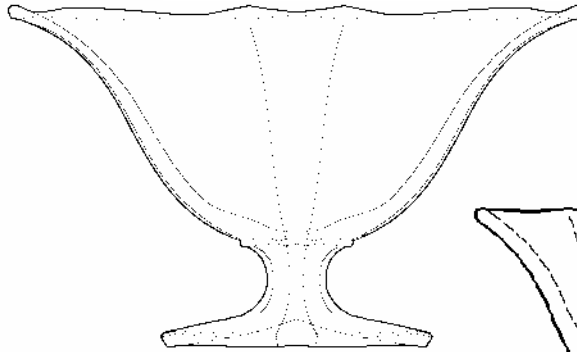
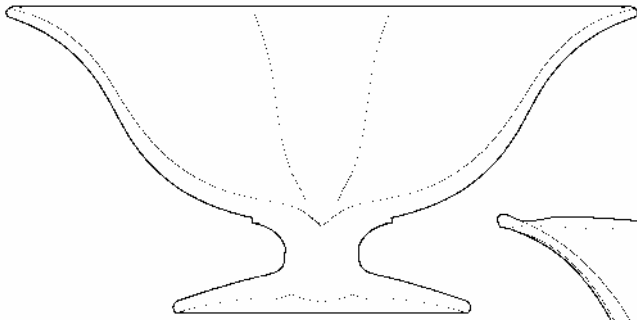
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND
BEST WISHES FOR A
WONDERFUL AND
SUCCESSFUL NEW
YEAR!**

Confusing US Glass Lines

#189

#310

#314



FOUNDED APRIL 21, 1974 IN DENVER, PENNSYLVANIA

THE STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY

QUARTERLY

<http://stretchglassociety.org>



First Class Mail

TO:

NOTICE: The SGS Quarterly newsletter distribution schedule is: FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST and NOVEMBER.