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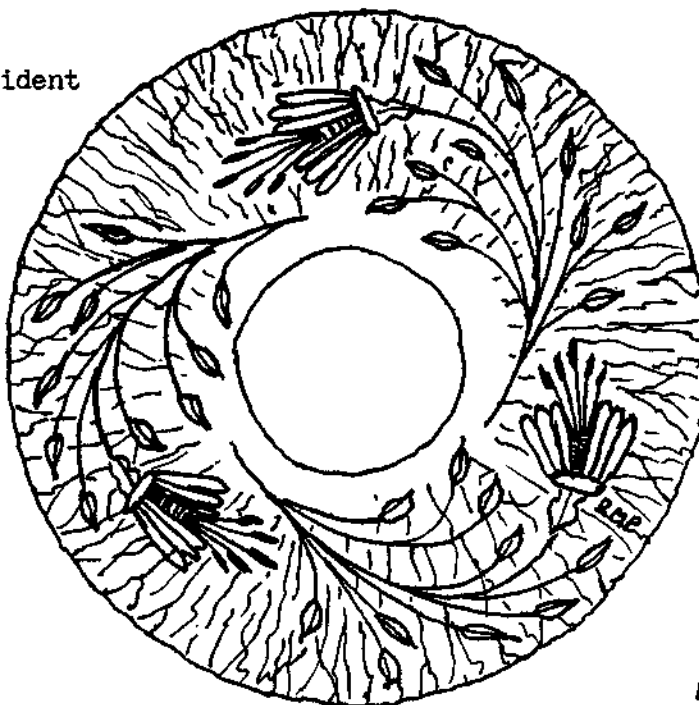
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STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

January 1977

A message from your President ...

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EACH OF YOU! We've been working on the upcoming convention and it looks as though we have another good one coming along. I saw Mr. Fenton on Monday, January 3, 1977, and what he has done is fantastic. He has been getting a lot of information together for his forthcoming museum opening.

Also, I went to see Mr. Russell C. Bond, Wilson Lodge Manager, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003, regarding a firm price for the food for this convention. The prices are given you below. Likewise, room prices. The security at Wilson Lodge is terrific.

Some of you have already made your reservations through Mr. Bond. I suggest that you send in your reservation for your room NOW. Mr. Bond is reserving only thirty (30) rooms for the convention on a first-come-first-serve basis. Those who may be arriving late should notify Mr. Bond of your expected time of arrival so that your room may be held for you. Those not sending in reservations will have to find room accommodations in near-by motels, so be certain that you take care of this matter at your earliest convenience.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1977 CONVENTION

ival Sunday evening, April 24, 1977, by 5:00 PM if at all possible.

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January 1977

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Monday, April 25, 1977

9:00 AM	Breakfast as a Group. Average cost approx. \$2.75
	Registration (a charge of \$1.00 each for this).
2:00 PM	Visit Oglebay Park Mansion Museum as a Group.
4:00-6:00 PM	Check in Stretch Glass for the auction.
6:00-7:30 PM	Glass on display. Evening meal on your own.
7:30 PM	Stretch Glass Auction.

Tuesday, April 26, 1977

10:00 AM	Business meeting.
	Visit rooms in afternoon or the Imperial Glass Museum across Ohio River in Bellaire, Ohio.
6:00 PM	Banquet with guests and speakers.
	Menu is Roast Beef - price for dinner is \$7.50 which includes tips and tax.

Wednesday, April 26, 1977

8:00 AM	Breakfast as a Group. It is hoped that Mr. & Mrs. Fenton will be with us at this time.
	Election and installation of new officers.

ROOM RATE SCHEDULE APRIL THRU JUNE

	<u>Kline Wing</u>	<u>Chalets</u>
Single room	\$19.00	\$17.00
Double room	\$24.00	\$22.00
Living rooms	\$25.00	

For more than two (2) persons per room, \$2.00 per person per night.
In consideration for all guests, pets are not permitted in the Lodge or Chalets.
Credit cards are not accepted but personal checks will be.
Tables for displays in the rooms can be provided; however, we do not permit any furniture to be moved. Check out time is 3:00 PM on Wednesday, April 26, 1977.

Mrs. Rose Presznick and Mr. John A. Artzberger, Curator, Mansion Museum, will be our banquet speakers. It is hoped that either Mr. or Mrs. Russell Umbraco from California will be able to attend the convention in which case either one or both will bring us their slide show of Stretch Glass with a talk at one or both of the breakfasts. This would be shared with a short talk by your President.

We are hoping to keep the convention activities centered on Harry Northwood and his glass artistry as much as possible this year. As you know, the relatives of Harry Northwood who still live in the Wheeling Area will be our guests. Perhaps they will share some of their childhood remembrances of Mr. Northwood with us.

Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Schleede and Mr. & Mrs. Peter Eckhard will be in charge of the Stretch Glass Auction. It would be appreciated if mint or near perfect pieces will be entered in the auction unless the piece or pieces are extremely rare. Do not hesitate to bring your better pieces of Stretch Glass as the security will be excellent.

Sorry that I do not have a map locating Oglebay Park at this time. Perhaps we will be able to have one in the next Newsletter. Oglebay Park is located on State Route 88 North, two (2) miles from the I-70 Oglebay Park Exit.

Watch for an ad in the Antique Trader along with an article by Mr. Jabe Tarter. We expect to have a writeup in the Wheeling paper inviting the public to come in and attend the auction or just to view the Stretch Glass displays.

pe to see as many of you as can possibly attend this convention in Wheeling. We are going to have a great time. Get your plans made and your reservations in NOW!

Berry A. Wiggins, President

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When you go to an auction you never know what will turn up. Even though you have read the sale ad in the local paper or the Antique Trader or perhaps even the sale bill from the auctioneer, there are still surprises to be found at every auction. Even rarities and heretofore unknown specimens appear at auctions, unadvertised. Such was the case at the sale held at the Curran Miller Auction barn at Daylight, Indiana, on December 12, 1976.

The ad read, 140 pieces of Grape & Cable Carnival, Collection of 170 wine glasses, furniture, etc. but no mention of the great rarity we were to find.

My son, Jim, and I left home early and drove 195 miles to the sale arriving two hours before sale time. This allowed us plenty of time to inspect the glass and make notes. We entered the sales area to make our inspection and I think Jim was first to spot this gorgeous piece of Stretch Glass (not advertised in the sale), the largest plate in Stretch either of us had ever seen. Seventeen and one-half inches in diameter. In checking later it was determined to be from the mold of the rare punch bowl and had been flattened into this super plate. Who took it home from the sale? We did! What color was it? A deep crimson red with a tiny bit of amberina in the center. As I sit and stare at this huge red beauty I still can't believe it.

Moral of the story? Get up early and drive a lot of miles and you still may find a great rarity when you least expect it. Happy Stretch hunting!

Jim Farr

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Also from the mail - - -

Dear Paul:

Such a nice surprise to see you browsing at a Marietta, Ohio antiques shop. Hope you can come to browse at our house one of these days. We've had a busy Fall as Winter almost seems to have come earlier this year and we never plan to get very far from home in bad weather.

Just now got to read your "Stretch" newsletter and enjoyed it very much. I had not heard about Mr. Hunsicker's death and after reading the end of his address to The Stretch Glass Society in April, I was shocked and saddened to hear such a brilliant and informative person was gone. It is such a loss to us all. I enjoyed his article so much and his enthusiastic thoughts on collecting - searching for treasures - unappreciated in many homes - I feel his ideas and influence has to live on through the works he accomplished. I surely regret the loss to every collector and most especially to his family.

Not criticizing your good newsletter but it would help if you would print the State at least with the name of the writer as everyone is not that familiar with each one.

We have a pretty marigold candlestick with the ebony bottom but ours seems more like regular Carnival Glass to me - not much, if any, of the stretch iridescence. Mr. Fenton's letter regarding these ebony footed candlesticks was very interesting. We heard some while back that he has ~~as~~ Museum about ready to open. In our last trip there we forgot to ask about the opening date. We surely look forward to seeing all the Fenton collectibles.

Grace and Byron Rinehart - West Virginia

January 1977

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Ed. Thanks so much for your nice letter, Grace and Byron. After reading it I decided to write to Mr. Fenton to get his answer as to why the candlesticks and other pieces which we know were in the Florentine Line, do not show much stretch effect. Also, about the Museum opening. In my letter I called the Museum the "Museum of Fenton Collectibles." His most gracious response to my letter is reprinted below. You will find it very informative as to why some Stretch Glass pieces do show very much stretch effect. I've had so many questions in this regard and I have no answer to this question. Thank you, Mr. Fenton, for your good letter which will answer the question for everyone.

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THE FENTON ART GLASS COMPANY
Williamstown, West Virginia 26187

November 5, 1976

Dear Paul:

Your letter of November 2 needs a response but I'm not sure that I can give you anything very definite about several of your questions.

The Museum is on its way but it depends upon how you reckon time as to whether you consider it is coming very shortly. I'm hopeful that some time in the Spring we will have it ready for public viewing. You have called it our "Museum of Fenton Collectibles." We're really working on a little different concept. While the emphasis will be on Fenton glass, we expect to be able to tell some kind of a story that will be something more than just seeing a lot of pretty glassware. That's as much as I'm ready to tell you about the Museum at this point. Just as soon as possible I'll give you some more information on it.

With regard to the candlesticks, I also have a Marigold candlestick with an ebony foot. The iridescence on the top of mine is not very good and certainly there is no stretch effect. It should be kept in mind that when the glass was made originally, the main object was to make a piece with an attractive shape and with a plain surface which is iridized. The stretch effect was sort of a by-product, depending upon the particular process they had to use on the piece in order to get the shape.

The candlesticks were not warmed in in the glory holes and gotten as hot as the bowls and some of the other shapes. Therefore, when they were iridized the stretch effect did not develop because the heat was not great enough to do so.

I have just checked this statement by looking at one of our #857 Fan Vases which has a melon-type fluting. This piece is made in what we called Grecian Gold and the top half of the piece has the stretch effect while the bottom half of the piece, while it is iridized, does not show any stretch. The bottom half has not been exposed to nearly as much heat as the top portion. I also just looked at a Topaz Iridescent tumbler with a dark blue handle, part of the #221 - 15 Pc. Lemonade Set. This piece is plain, nicely iridized but no stretch. The handle has no iridizing at all, yet these are pieces that were part of the Florentine catalog issued in the period around 1920. I hope that this is the information that will be helpful to you. I still have nothing more on how the candlesticks with the ebony foot were put together.

Cordially,

Frank M. Fenton
President

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Ed. We will all be looking forward to seeing the new Museum. Who knows? It may be open at convention time and those coming from far away places will be able to see it before they return home. Others close by can see it often. Thank you, Mr. Fenton, for this valuable information.

January 1977

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Richmond California
November 5, 1976

Dear Paul:

Sorry for not writing but you have been doing such a good job with the Newsletter. Like most people the only time I write (most of the time) is when I'm "all fired up about something." This year has been a very busy one for us as we both have really been traveling around for both business and pleasure.

We have seen quite a bit of Stretch Glass for sale at all prices. We've added an olive yellow paneled box, tiny red bowl, pair of sapphire blue saucer candlesticks and among other pieces a lemon yellow concave diamond bedroom pitcher and glass.

We have three different styles of the short saucer candlesticks - plain ones that were made by Fenton, paneled ones, and paneled ones with a handle. Are any other saucer-type short candlesticks known to exist?

We have seen many "dumb-bell" type of heavy candlesticks in a variety of colors and have also seen a number of bobeches in lemon yellow (vaseline). Yes, there are many pieces of Stretch Glass that are not shown in our book. We've seen enough Stretch Glass to fill four books. Unfortunately, the cost of publishing a book now is very high.

What is happening on the West Coast you ask? A lot. Many collectors have hinted that collecting might have reached a peak. We completely disagree, as we were in Las Vegas this week for the Arrington Antique Auction. There wasn't any Stretch Glass in the auction but there was plenty of action. Collectors from all over the U.S.A. came with money to buy, and buy they did. Several collectors came with around \$20,000 to bid on the Triple Caille slot machine and the winning bid was \$32,000 which was way over any other price paid for a slot machine. Back to Stretch Glass.

We have had many new Stretch Glass friends over to talk about - what else? Seems like everyone is traveling this year. The Stretch Glass slide programs are constantly being rented. We have been doing the Walter Larsen antique shows in the Mart 2 in San Francisco with the next show January 6-9, 1977. We are also doing the Tom O'Connell shows at the Cow Palace in S.F. with the next show starting tomorrow and then we'll be at the December 18-19, January 22-23, 1977, February 12-13, and March 12-13, 1977, shows. Anyone interested in Stretch Glass is most welcome to come over and chat. No trouble selling Stretch Glass but there is a problem in replenishing the stock.

One of the biggest events for Stretch Glass collectors on the West Coast always seems to turn out to be the Western Regional Carnival Glass Convention held in Medford, Oregon, sponsored by the Washington and Oregon Carnival Glass Club. It is a Carnival Glass Convention, but for some strange reason lots of Stretch Glass always turns up. Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Cooper and Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Heffner both had nice Stretch Glass displays. We had a few rare Stretch Glass pieces to display and also a display of all the new stretch glass on the market. Many of the rarer pieces that we had on display at the convention were purchased at the convention or on the way to the convention. One of our favorite pieces that we purchased just before the convention is a beautifully colored amberina double scroll console set.

The Harnish's of Pennsylvania also attended the convention. They brought out some of the beautiful jewelry made from old broken Carnival and Stretch Glass. They made the prettiest necklace from a piece of red Stretch but that day I was too slow and saw the necklace only after it had been sold and the new owner would not part with it at all. Then, wouldn't you know, afterwards at a local flea market a man found a broken red Stretch plate for \$2.00. He wouldn't even sell it for \$4.00! Wonder if he has the same ideas that we have on what to do with a broken plate?

I really can't complain too loudly as I was the lucky winner of a beautiful pendant of Carnival Glass at the convention. We were also most fortunate to have the Richard Tilton's of Ohio (SGS members) to join us at the convention. They brought with them two very full rooms of Carnival

and Stretch Glass for sale. We found a couple of nice pieces that we brought home from their rooms. Avonelle Shirrod and all of her hard-working crew put on a most memorable convention that was truly educational and fun. Walter Brannon of San Jose, California, spoke on Carnival Glass tumblers and he did have on display the yellow Concave Diamond tumbler and the yellow Concave Diamond bedroom water set tumbler that fits into the top of the pitcher. Carol Moore of Oregon spoke on Carnival Glass vases and she had many examples of Stretch Glass vases included. Charlotte Williams of California spoke on Northwood glass, but she had only examples of Northwood Carnival Glass.

I have been working on an article on the "new" Stretch Glass. We have been able to get a number of the new West Germany pieces so must get them photographed.

Something that I have found that I am going to use on our Christmas tree this year is beautifully handmade dark iridescent Christmas tree ornaments. We've been selling them (and they are marked NEW) at the Cow Palace shows. Collectors seem to just love them.

Just found a new tankard type lemonade pitcher in lemon yellow with the clear lemon yellow handle. It matches a set of glasses that we have had for some time. We're so pleased to have found it.

Happy Stretch Glass hunting,

Russell and Kitty Umbraco

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And here is a more recent report from our West Coast Director, Kitty Umbraco.

December 15, 1976

Dear Paul:

Off the top of my head I'll try to give you a West Coast report on how we see Stretch Glass collecting, mainly in the San Francisco Bay Area.

To promote our book we started doing antique shows in San Francisco at the MART (right downtown S.F. at 10th and Market). The first show was spent answering the question "What kind of glass is this?" We were ready to make a tape recording of the answer.

A few people took a chance and bought our book and a piece of Stretch Glass. Now, after a year of shows at the MART, and at the Cow Palace (Also in San Francisco), most people that are interested in glass KNOW about Stretch Glass. One of the biggest hurdles to overcome is to help other dealers recognize Stretch Glass.

What kinds of people are buying Stretch Glass at the shows? Dealers, beginning collectors, advanced Stretch Glass collectors, interior designers, Carnival Glass collectors, art glass collectors, thoughtful people who want to give a favorite person a special gift (lots of people are getting Stretch Glass for Christmas this year), and many buy Stretch Glass for a very special place in the home, college students.

Trends in buying. Collectors filling in their collections. Many buy only one color of Stretch Glass with the sapphire blue leading. Candlesticks are most popular. A rough count shows 35 different shapes of candlesticks in all colors except black. I know of at least 5 or 6 shapes that we do not have. Covered candy dishes follow the candlesticks in popularity and then console sets. It is sometimes most difficult to put a complete console set together if you do not find the set complete when you buy it. This keeps us all active in trying to track down that one candlestick, or the bowl, to complete the set.

Our Northern California Carnival Glass Club has lots of members that actively collect Stretch Glass, as well as Carnival Glass. When we go to the Washington/Oregon Convention there is almost equal amounts of Stretch Glass as Carnival Glass. To sum it all up: Stretch Glass is very active on the West Coast. Happy hunting,

Russell and Kitty Umbraco

Below is a brief history of the famous Oglebay Park in Wheeling, West Virginia. Since our 1977 Convention will be held in this historic spot, I'm sure you will enjoy reading this brief history as a background for your being there and seeing for yourself the natural beauty of this place. Be sure to make your plans and get your reservations in plenty of time to attend the Convention. You'll be glad you did. Ed.

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HISTORY OF OGLEBAY PARK

- A Brief Summary -

The history of Oglebay Park can be traced back to a "tomahawk claim" in the 18th Century. It was in these early days of westward expansion that a frontiersman blazed a trail in the northwestern part of Virginia and staked his claim on eight hundred acres of rolling, undeveloped land. The first recorded owner of this land was Zachariah Sprigg around the time of the Revolutionary War. When Sprigg died in 1800 the property was left to his three daughters. A year later the central part of the Mansion House was built by Elizabeth Sprigg and her husband, Dr. Hanson Chapline. During the first quarter of the 19th Century the land was purchased by George W. Smith, an Englishman from Pittsburgh. He called it Waddington Farm in nostalgic memory of his English country home, Waddington Heath. Smith added many buildings to the farm. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Smith took his family to Canada and the farm was occupied by a series of tenants until it was purchased by A. Allen Howell, a prominent Wheelingite, in 1893. Mr. Howell was the father of Mrs. Earl W. Oglebay.

In 1901 Waddington Farm was purchased by Earl W. Oglebay, already a well-known businessman, educator and public-minded citizen. Mr. Oglebay was master of Waddington for twenty-five years and developed his farm into an experimental laboratory for agricultural purposes. The farm was widely known for its famous breed of Guernsey cattle. Scarcely less famous were the Hackney and Suffolk horses and the purebred poultry and sheep. During these years the Mansion was rebuilt -- more than sixty other buildings were erected -- trees and shrubs were planted -- gardens laid out -- roads built -- and Waddington became a lovely country estate, as well as a model farm.

Earl W. Oglebay passed away in June, 1926, leaving his property to the City of Wheeling for so long as the people "shall operate it for purposes of public recreation and education." The City was given a three-year interim in which to accept or reject the gift.

For almost two years the question lay unanswered in the minds of the City fathers. Delaying the decision was the problem of financing the future maintenance and development of the property. During this three-year interim the farm was maintained by a provision in Mr. Oglebay's will. A leading advocate for acceptance was W. P. Wilson, an appraiser of the Oglebay estate from the National Bank of West Virginia, and also vice-chairman of the Wheeling Park Commission. In a report to the Mayor, the City Manager, the Wheeling Council, and the Wheeling Park Commission, Mr. Wilson proposed that "Waddington Farm should be accepted by the City of Wheeling as Oglebay Park." In July of 1928, two years after Colonel Oglebay's death, the Wheeling Council formally accepted the bequest for the people and it was put under the governing hand of the Wheeling Park Commission, which would be responsible for financially maintaining, developing, and operating the Park.

Upon acceptance of the land as a park, the Park Commission began a program of careful planning, designed from the first to make Oglebay Park an outstanding recreational and educational area. An original master plan was drawn by the National Recreation Association with the assistance and guidance of their park specialist, Lebert H. Weir. Authorities in landscape architecture were consulted for their views and recommendations. Other aid came from the National Park Service and experts from the park field. Because of this careful planning in the beginning, practically every major project undertaken in Oglebay Park has been successful in both public participation and community service.

During the 1930's many park improvement projects were carried out through various Federal Work Relief programs. Approximately 200 boys were housed in the Park and completed numerous conservation projects, while other projects were developed and executed under the Works Progress Admin-

istration (WPA). Through gifts and loans, funds were raised to meet the 20% sponsor's contribution making possible the building of the nature trails, bridle paths, picnic sites, roads and parking areas, outdoor theater, twenty-one vacation cabins, Camp Russell, reconstruction of the first nine holes of the Crispin Center Golf Course and the construction of the second nine holes landscaping and tree trimming, the construction of the entire Crispin Center area -- swimming pool, bathhouse, golf shop, Pine Room, refreshment stand and tennis courts -- and the restoration of numerous old buildings, many of which are still in use.

Realizing that a stable means for capital improvements must be set up, officials inaugurated The Parks System Trust Fund in 1945. The Trust Fund has acted as the distributing repository for contributions and bequests to be used for improvements to the parks of Wheeling. Improvements at Oglebay Park made possible through the use of these funds include Wilson Lodge, nine Har-Tru and two Grasstex Tennis Courts, Tennis Shelter, Bar-3 Gold Course and Club House, Riding Academy and Show Ring Arena, Children's Center, Children's Association Shelter, nine cabins, Schenk Lake, the Golf Driving Range, Alene Kraft Garden Center, Ski Area, Mansion renovation, rebuilding of Camp Russell, Service Building, and acquisition of the Bruner, Cortellesi, Jobetty, Lasch, and Storch farms. In 1966, a 7,500 square foot fireproof wing was added to the Mansion House. The Speidel Championship Golf Course, the third golf installation at Oglebay Park, was opened for play in June, 1970.

The major project undertaken through the Parks System Trust Fund has been Wilson Lodge, replacing Wilson Hall, a remodeled barn which was destroyed by fire in 1945. The facilities at Wilson Lodge include a spacious lobby, several lounges, public dining facilities, private meeting and dining rooms, multiple-use auditorium and banquet hall, indoor recreational areas, and sleeping rooms. The Lodge has been constructed in five stages: Unit One - a sleeping wing - opened in April of 1957. Unit Two - the dining area - opened in July of 1958; Unit Three - the chalets - opened in June of 1960; Unit Four - the multi-purpose auditorium - completed in July of 1961; and Unit Five - a 43-room deluxe sleeping wing addition - completed in 1966 and dedicated to Edwin F. Kline, the donor.

The history of Oglebay Park is not complete without mentioning program development. In order to extend the scope of activities at Oglebay Park a plan of encouraging certain groups to take an active part in special interest phases of the Park program has been undertaken over the years, thus helping to finance a number of worthwhile activities and to secure volunteer leadership. Oglebay Institute was incorporated in 1930, and through privately endowed funds, is able to assist with the cultural phase of the Park program. The Wheeling Garden Center was established in 1938 to promote an interest in horticulture and serve as an information center on gardening activities. In 1939 the Oglebay Park Caddy Camp came into existence. Over the years this outstanding camp has provided topnotch caddies for the golf courses. The Waltz Night Committee, since 1942, has sponsored a series of formal park dances each year and, at the same time, has raised money to make capital improvements to the Pine Room. The Oglebay Park Children's Association, the Golf Clubs, Tennis Club, Junior Saddle Club, Wheeling Symphony Society, Ski Club, and Lake Committee have all made vital contributions to the Park Program throughout the years.

This brief historical sketch shows the transition of Oglebay Park from a farm in 1928 to a modern community and conference center in the 1970's, its activities including practically every type of recreational and cultural activity participated in by the people of the Wheeling Area and visitors from every State.

The Mansion Museum

This Museum attempts to reflect an accurate image of life in the Ohio Valley from its settlement to the beginning of the twentieth Century. Period rooms, special collections, and a historical library all contribute to this total picture. Upon entering the Mansion, you will step back in time and immerse yourself in the past: furniture from the 1740's to the 1870's, glass of all kinds, china, guns and pewter are all here to intrigue you.

The Mansion was built by Dr. and Mrs. Hanson Chapline in 1835. Initially, it was an eight room, red brick farm house, but major alterations over the years have transformed it into a building

which hardly resembles the original structure. Between 1835 and 1926, the building and land had eight private owners. The last was Earl W. Oglebay, a Cleveland industrialist, who was born and grew up in the Wheeling Area. On his death he left his estate to the City of Wheeling.

The Ralph Boyd Memorial Glass Collection contains examples of the fine work of Wheeling's glass makers. Spanning the years 1820 to 1920 more than 1,000 items are on display. They range from rare historical flasks to Wheeling Peachblow, the glass made with gold. Outstanding in the collection is the 1844 Sweeney Punch Bowl, 4' 10" high, the largest known cut blown molded piece of glass in the world. This collection will delight antiquarians and glass scholars, as well as the casual tourist.

Sweeney Punch Bowl

Thomas and Michael Sweeney started the Sweeney Glass Manufactory in Wheeling, Virginia in 1835 and their products were of the finest flint quality of the era. Thomas, a great admirer of Henry Clay decided to design a gift for him. He labored long on the four separate moulds for a large punch bowl. In 1844 THREE bowls, and ONLY three, were made; one for Henry Clay, one for Thomas himself and one for his brother Michael. Then the moulds were destroyed.

(1) Thomas sent his bowl to England for the London Exposition. It was carefully packed, carried to Pittsburgh by Ohio River boat, then overland to Baltimore, and shipped abroad. The largest piece of cut glass ever made, it was called "Sweeney's Folly." But when it received the Award of Grand Prize at the London Event, Thomas became a hero. That bowl is reputedly still in a British Museum.

(2) The second bowl, amid pomp and gaiety, was presented to Henry Clay in Wheeling at a reception held at the home of Thomas. The bowl was used for punch on this gala occasion, then presented to Mr. Clay. Though the gift was much appreciated and greatly admired, its transportation home must have caused Mr. Clay some difficulties. Of finest flint (lead), hand-cut, pipe-blown crystal glass, it was embellished with long cut glass prisms. The masterpiece was 4' 10" in overall height, held over 400 servings of punch and weighed two hundred twenty-five pounds.

(3) The third bowl, Michael's, disappeared; for years there was no trace of it. The two brothers for reasons now unknown, dissolved their partnership and ended all family communication. However, to Michael's funeral came Thomas and his daughter. Later both visited the grave. They then discovered, to their amazement, the third punch bowl being utilized as a monument. Mounted on a granite base, with pillars of granite supporting a heavy granite top and entirely encased in cylinder-blown glass panes, stood the remaining punch bowl. The inscription on the base of the monument read: MICHAEL SWEENEY - Died Dec. 11, 1875 - Aged 65 years - 3 Mo. - 4 Da. "THE WORLD IS MY COUNTRY - TO DO GOOD MY RELIGION."

The base of the punch bowl rested on a square of granite on which was cut: "MANUFACTURED BY MICHAEL SWEENEY - 1844." To Thomas, who had not only designed, but made and cut the bowl, this inscription was quite a shock!

This third bowl, but little weathered by time, still exists - a monument to world-renowned Sweeney Glass. By permission of the Sweeney descendants, it is now on exhibit in the famed Oglebay Institute Mansion Museum, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, surrounded by other genuine, priceless and most interesting Early Wheeling Area Glass Treasures.

A photograph was taken by Cress Studio of Wheeling in 1945, after the punch bowl had been on display as a "tombstone" since about 1875. The handmade window panes enclosing the "treasure" had been broken by vandals and the prisms that hung from the waistline collar where the bowl joined with the stem of the massive foot had dropped away and broken on the stone base or had been stolen. An Imperial Glass Co. official witnessed the removal of this giant cut glass punch bowl from a Wheeling cemetery to safekeeping in the Mansion Museum, where it can be seen and studied all year round by interested visitors.

The Imperial Glass Corporation made many miniature copies of the punch bowl to be sold at the Mansion Museum. It is understood that they are no longer available.

STRETCH GLASS
IN COLOR

By Berry Wiggins

This is the first book on Iridescent Stretch Glass for immediate mailing. Who made Stretch and how to identify Stretch Glass are answered in this book. Articles on Fenton, Imperial and Northwood taken from original catalogues and old magazines.

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