



December 2023

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**2024 – Golden (50th) Anniversary
of the Stretch Glass Society!**

By Dave Shetlar

It's a bit hard to believe, but it's been nearly 50 years since the Stretch Glass Society was formed during its first meeting held on April 21 & 22, 1974 at the Colonial Motor Lodge, Denver, PA.

From our files, there was a notice prepared that announced this first meeting. Apparently, this was handed out and mailed to carnival glass collectors and others known to collect iridescent stretch glass. Organization of the group was credited to Bill



Crowl who talked about having a collectors' meeting out of his room at the Marshall Shaffers Carnival Glass sale held in Akron, OH. Rose and Carl Schleede of Spencerport, NY worked with Harry Heathwole (Dayton, VA), Jabe Tarter (Akron, OH), and Berry Wiggins (Orange, VA) to reserve rooms at the Colonial Motor Lodge. They then notified all that they could think of to simply



come, set up displays to show, sell and trade glass. The Saturday breakfast was listed at \$1.95, the evening banquet was \$4.75 and rooms were \$20.00! That was certainly a different time!!

Fifty years ago, Jim Farr was elected as the first president, Harry Heathwole was our first secretary & treasurer, with Jean Eckhart, Carl Schleede and Jabe Tarter becoming the first directors. In the first directory dated July 15, 1974, there were 38 memberships listed, with most of these being

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Golden (50th) Anniversary

(Continued from page 1)



family memberships with two people. Today, we have a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and a board of directors with seven members, each assigned specific tasks. On top of that, we have a membership administrator, a newsletter editor (including other things like the annual calendar), and our webmaster. And our memberships hover around 150 (again, with the majority of these being family memberships).

Cal Hackeman and Jeff Hodges have volunteered to lead a committee

that will be working on promoting iridescent stretch glass in 2024 with an emphasis on the Society's 50th Anniversary.

Vickie Rowe has another committee that is busy planning our Convention activities where "golden" stretch glass will be featured. Our club display will consist of many pieces of "marigold" stretch glass (Diamond's Gold; Fenton's Grecian Gold; Imperial's Rose Ice, Pearl Ruby & Pearl Green; Jeannette's Gold & Amber; Lancaster's Rose Ice & Aztec; and Northwood's "marigold"). This under-appreciated stretch color can make a strong impression when it is accumulated together in a large display, so check your collection and be prepared to loan your best pieces to be displayed with the rest of the club display. I have also been assigned the task of creating a display and discussing all the club pieces that have been made. I'm still looking for an "apple" that was made for the club in the early years.



Renee and I are working with some of our "old timers" to create a display that will feature a chronology of the leadership of our club, places where we have had our annual meetings, and pictures of previous meetings. As usual, if you have personal photos (or newspaper clippings) of previous

meetings, especially any meetings prior to 2000, please share them with us! We would like to have images of both glass and participants. While attending the Thanksgiving Randy Clark auction, Randy came up to Renee and I with a shoe box full of thick envelopes. He said that his workers were going to toss them out, but he looked at the pictures within each envelope and realized that they were pictures of past stretch glass conventions, from 1985 to 2008. Many of the images have names of the people written on the backs. It is a treasure trove of information! I'm hoping that we can get a few more of the 1974 to 1985 pictures!



Co-Presidents' Message

Happy holidays! We hope that you were able to spend time with friends and family during Thanksgiving. We're starting to decorate our home in preparation for the Christmas holidays, which will include displaying some of our red, white and green stretch glass.

We are excited for events happening in 2024. We will celebrate our 50th anniversary in January by taking a cruise to Alaska at the end of May. Soon after we return, we will be preparing for our trip to the Stretch Glass Society's 50th anniversary in August.

Please remember to renew your annual dues. The board of directors did not recommend any change in dues and this was approved at the annual meeting. Thank you in advance for your financial support of the Stretch Glass Society.

Happy hunting and we hope you find some new treasures to add to your collections.



Vickie and John Rowe

Vickie and John Rowe
Co-Presidents 2023-2025

2024 Calendars and Membership Renewals in the Mail

By Cal Hackeman

All members will be receiving a packet via US Mail in December. The packet will include some or all of the following:

- A letter from our co-Presidents, John & Vickie Rowe,
- An invoice for your 2024 membership dues from our Treasurer, Cal Hackeman,
- Your 2024 calendar(s),
- A copy or copies of our newest brochure and
- Copies of our 2024 Convention & Show card.

The Stretch Glass Society

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

50th Anniversary



2024

Featuring the Bill Crowl Memorial Collection



If you picked up your 2024 calendars at the 2023 convention, then your packet will not include calendars. If you are a life member, are a new member who joined with a 2-yr membership or pre-paid your membership for multiple years, your packet will not include an invoice for your 2024 membership but it will include an opportunity to make a contribution to The SGS or to the Bill Crowl Memorial Education Fund. If you ordered additional calendars, those will be in your packet as well.

Please check your packet carefully and if it includes an invoice for your 2024 membership, please send a check to Stretch Glass Society, attn: Cal Hackeman, Treasurer, [redacted] or pay on www.stretchglassociety.org (we accept credit cards via squarespace and PayPal) before December 31, 2023, to keep your membership current and to continue to receive The Quarterly in 2024. You must be a member in good standing to receive a Registration Packet for the 50th Anniversary 2024 Convention and any other information which we send to members.

Contributions are increasingly important to the successful operation of The Stretch Glass Society. Member dues cover only a small portion of our operating expenses which include our newsletter, website, convention, and overall promotion and preservation of stretch glass and The SGS. The SGS is a 501(c)(3) organization and your contributions are deductible in accordance with current tax law and your personal tax situation. Your contributions to The SGS and to the Bill Crowl Memorial Education Fund allow us to continue to promote and preserve stretch glass and The SGS. Thank you, in advance, for remembering The SGS in your year-end charitable giving.

Happy Holidays and be on the lookout for your packet from The Stretch Glass Society, arriving in your mailbox soon! If you have questions, please contact Cal at [redacted] (phone or text), on-line at [redacted] or by US Mail at [redacted]. Thank you for making your payments ASAP.

See What You Are Missing
STRETCH GLASS
SHOW AND
CONVENTION
 August 15-17, 2024
 Comfort Inn-Lancaster County North
 Denver, PA 17517

Celebrating 50 years of Promoting and Preserving American Iridescent Stretch Glass

First 25 guests to present this card receive a complimentary Emerald Green stretch glass candleholder





50th Anniversary Celebration 1974-2024

Fifty years of promoting and celebrating American stretch glass
See what you are missing!

As you read on the front page of this issue of The Quarterly, **2024 is the 50th Anniversary of the founding of The Stretch Glass Society** on April 21, 1974, in Denver, PA. We will be celebrating The Stretch Glass Society and stretch glass throughout all of 2024. Our goal is to **increase the recognition of The Stretch Glass Society and highlight its role in promoting and preserving stretch glass** over the past 50 years.

We will also be promoting The Stretch Glass Society as the recognized source of information about stretch glass and the only organization dedicated to promoting and preserving stretch glass. Concurrently, the celebration will include the **promotion of stretch glass** as a unique, American glassware for decorating and entertaining in the past, present and future.

We (Cal Hackeman and Jeff Hodges) are the co-chairs of the 50th Anniversary Celebration, in conjunction with Vickie and John Rowe, Co-Presidents of The Stretch Glass Society. **The Celebration will include many activities and a great deal of outreach with the goal of making The Stretch Glass Society and stretch glass better known. There will be many opportunities for SGS members to become involved, especially in their local area. Please volunteer or respond to help us make this celebration and these promotional activities a success.**



In your 2024 membership renewal/calendar mailing, you will find an overview of the planned activities as well as a questionnaire for you to complete and return to us. Please include this when you return your membership renewal and/or contribution.

During the Celebration we will:



- **Recount and document the history of The Stretch Glass Society** and honor founders, charter members, life members and past Boards of Directors – the first installment is on the front page! This is being done by Dave & Renee Shetlar with assistance by Joanne Rodgers.
- **Advertise The Stretch Glass Society and stretch glass** using paid advertising and articles we will write for publication. This is being led by Patrick Steele, Director of Advertising and Promotion
- **Distribute SGS information to antique malls, buyers and sellers, auctioneers, collectors, museums and others** who are, or may be, interested in stretch glass. Deb Brateng and Gary Waugh are collecting information on antique malls to expand our mailing list and allow us to be in contact with additional malls and dealers. **We could use your help to identify the antique malls, shops, museums, etc., in your area.**
- **Increase our presence on Social Media** and with bloggers and printed news media to create interest in and disseminate information about The Stretch Glass Society and stretch glass. Jeff Hodges is leading this effort with daily postings on Facebook and other social media highlighting stretch glass; Dave Shetlar, Director of Social Media and others are also involved in accomplishing this.
- **Present displays of stretch glass and provide speakers to give presentations** at glass conventions, museums, club meetings and other locations to increase the recognition of, and enthusiasm for, stretch glass. We have secured several commitments at venues for displays of stretch glass and seminars on stretch glass during 2024 and continue to pursue additional opportunities. I will be traveling to various locations around the US to deliver the presentations and set up the displays of stretch glass. Anyone want to do some traveling?
- **Increase our on-going efforts to preserve stretch glass through the Bill Crawl Memorial Stretch Glass Collection by acquiring unusual and interesting stretch glass.** Bob Henkel and I have been designated by the Board as the purchasing agents for this collection, utilizing the funds on deposit designated for the Crawl Fund by donors.
- **Provide information about stretch glass to glass collectors and enthusiasts, including our members,** to encourage interest in and enhance their knowledge of stretch glass and The Stretch Glass Society.
- Of course, there will be a **50th Anniversary convention** featuring display tables related to the history of stretch glass, seminars recounting key individuals, important milestones, highlighting how stretch glass is used today. The 50th Anniversary Convention on August 15-17, 2024, in Denver, PA, is being

planned by the Convention team and,

- Efforts are underway to **create a 50th Anniversary souvenir**, which will be available for SGS members to purchase. Billy Shreck, Director of Souvenirs, is leading the effort on this with involvement by Vickie Rowe.



Your Board of Directors is actively involved in this celebration and the promotion of The SG and stretch glass, but we cannot do it all. **We are asking you, our members, to help us distribute brochures and convention cards to your local antique malls, auctioneers, museums, libraries, club meetings, etc. Additionally, Jeff is posting photos of stretch glass on several Facebook pages and groups every day. You can like, comment and share the postings to help us reach more viewers. We also need several volun-teers to provide lists of antique malls, auctioneers, etc. in their local area for us to utilize in our outreach. Another way you can help us is to identify glass clubs, conventions and/or museums where you feel it would be advantageous for us to either display stretch glass or talk about The SGS and stretch glass.** We will take care of finding the speaker and providing the stretch glass. All we need you to do is let us know about the meeting, convention or museum and who to contact. **There are lots of opportunities for you to help us get the word out. Please respond to the enclosed questionnaire to let us know how you are willing to help.**

We look forward to your involvement in promoting The SGS and stretch glass so that it will be known and ap-preciated by more collectors and glass enthusiasts. You may contact us via email at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] or by text/phone at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. Please remember to **complete the questionnaire and return it to us letting us know how you will be participating** in the excitement of celebrating the 50th anniversary of The Stretch Glass Society. Thanks, in advance, for all that you will do and are doing to spread the word about stretch glass and The SGS.

Sincerely,

Cal and Jeff

Bill Crowl Memorial Education Fund Stretch Glass Collection Makes Significant Acquisition

By Cal Hackeman



The Bill Crowl stretch glass collection now includes an example of the hard-to-find Fenton Tangerine stretch glass oval center handled server. The server was purchased with donations made to the Bill Crowl Memorial Education Fund; thank you to all who made this purchase possible. Bill Crowl was famous for his Tangerine stretch glass collection. Many of us rarely saw the collection because it was packed away in banana boxes but every now and again Bill would loan Tangerine stretch glass for a display at a convention or on rare occasions, he would show the collection to individuals privately.

I had the privilege of seeing the entire collection – or at least the entirety of what we could find at that time – one weekend after Bill and I had been scouring the Renninger's Antiques Extravaganza for stretch glass and other items of interest. I had been asking Bill if he had any Tangerine stretch glass duplicates to sell. He said the only way he would know would be to unpack his collection. I offered to help do that and we sat on the tarmac in front of his storage unit in Adamstown for several hours that afternoon. In addition to seeing the most unbelievable collection of Tangerine stretch glass, I was allowed to purchase a few duplicates. Among the Tangerine stretch glass I saw that day was an oval center handled server similar to the one recently purchased for the Bill Crowl stretch glass collection, which now includes a number of examples of Tangerine stretch glass.

The Bill Crowl stretch glass collection was conceived as a way to preserve stretch glass and have examples of stretch glass available for displays, presentations and exhibits. When we are promoting stretch glass to other glass collectors at glass shows, conventions or club meetings or in a museum display, it is important to be able to show rarities, hard-to-find items and examples of stretch glass which are more readily available. The acquisition of this Tangerine oval center handled server provides us with a "WOW" piece of stretch glass to include in those presentations and displays and thus helps us to fulfill our mission of promoting and preserving stretch glass.

November Road Trip Finds!

By Dave (& Renee) Shetlar

Over the last few months, it has been pretty uneventful trying to find stretch glass at our local antique malls and flea markets. But we decided we would head out a day early to give a talk on stretch glass to the Great Lakes Carnival Glass Club's convention. We actually got lost in Decatur, IN and ended up downtown where there was a prominent sign for an antique mall. Not expecting much, but needing to stretch (no pun intended) our legs, we headed in. Our normal routine is for Renee to do the ground floor and I'll do any upstairs or downstairs. I headed left on my way to the stairs and saw several pieces of carnival glass (yawn), but then I spotted a beautiful U.S. Glass #179 vase in topaz in a cabinet - \$45! Probably had a chip or something, but I made a note of it. I then went upstairs, nothing. Went down stairs and it appeared to be a bit like a poorly lit dungeon, but I forged on. I then spotted a Tangerine candy jar on a shelf with \$28 on the sticker, but the booth had "half off!" Figured it had a crack or chip, perfect!! Yeah! By the time I got back upstairs, Renee had finished her side of the mall and mentioned that there was a blue bowl with Diamond candleholders in a booth. Took a look and I realized that the bowl was actually a Fenton #2007 and the \$15 price tag was even better. We both then looked over the U.S. Glass vase and it was perfect AND 10% off! Now we were both pumped up at finding some nice stretch glass.



U.S. Vase 179 large flared, Topaz



Fenton Bowl, #2007, cupped, Celeste Blue

As we continued our trip, we were unsuccessful in the next three malls. Two big malls only had some common pieces that were either too expensive for our tastes or were pieces we already had. I wanted to stop in Coldwater, MI, but by the time we got to the turn-off, there was only about 15 minutes left before their posted closing times. So, on to Lansing, MI for the convention. We got to the convention just in time for their Thursday meet-and-greet with dinner! Our host, Maxine Burkheart (you know, the lady that tolerates Wally!) graciously welcomed us and got us fed. She also reminded us that there were member rooms to visit after dinner. After dinner, Renee decided she'd had enough, but I went room hopping. I soon found a Northwood #640 bowl in emerald green and at a satisfactory price. Several other rooms had stretch glass, but most were items that I already had. However, I noticed that one person had what appeared to be the lid to a Fenton #10 bonbon in Tangerine. It was \$90 and I had spent most of my cash. Figured it would be there the next day.



Fenton Vase #573, crimped, Velva Rose

The next day, we hit the local bank ATM and replenished our cash. Since my talk wasn't until the evening banquet, we decided to drive back to Coldwater, MI where I knew there were two to three malls. The first small mall was kind of cluttered, but we came away with a Fenton #573 vase in Velva Rose (\$45) and a Northwood bowl #638 in Jade Blue. The bowl had calcium deposits inside which likely explained the \$10 price! I was able to easily get all traces of the deposits off with muriatic acid when I got home!

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Fenton Candy Jar #837, Tangerine



Northwood Bowl #640, Emerald Green



Northwood Bowl #638, Jade Blue

November Road Trip Finds!

(Continued from page 6)



Fenton Vase #847, swung fan, Celeste Blue



Northwood Bowl #617, Topaz



Imperial Bowl #7255 Mayo, Marigold on Pink



Fenton Bowl, #600, low, Ruby Stretch

The next mall was much larger and better organized. There we found a Fenton #847 fan vase in Celeste Blue, marked 40% off of \$48 – deal! Another booth had a boat-load of “vaseline” glass and I was expecting some high prices, but I got a Fenton #317 handled server and a Northwood #617 bowl for decent prices. The next mall, again, appeared to be more like garage sale items, but we soon spotted another Fenton handled server in Celeste blue at \$14 with half off! The same booth had a little Imperial #7255 mayo with marigold on pink iridescence, again half off of \$12! Finally, we hit the next mall complex but the huge facility only yielded a Fenton #400 vase in Persian Pearl. By this time Maxine had called in somewhat a panic to tell us that we had to rush back and set up our display because the hotel wouldn’t allow anyone in the room while they were setting up! In short, we got back and set up, then cleaned up and the banquet went well.

After the banquet, I thought I would go get the tangerine lid, but it was already gone! Rats! I then visited with Kathy and Galen Johnson to discuss the Hooked on Carnival (and stretch) pricing guide. On my way out, I spotted the tangerine lid, for \$90!! I asked if they could do any better and indeed they could! I thought the lid was for the bonbon, but when I got home, it was too large! What? I then realized that it was the lid to a round jar that doesn’t have a pedestal foot! I have the jar in Velva Rose, so now I’m looking for the jar base in Tangerine! I’ve seen them at some previous auctions but avoided them because I didn’t have a lid. I won’t do that again!!

On the way home, we stopped in Toledo and at Jeffrey’s (just north of Findley, OH). Not much, but in Jeffrey’s I found a really nice Fenton #600 low bowl in dark ruby stretch. Not cheap, but well worth the \$63 final price. I guess the moral of this travel story is that stretch glass is out there, but you are likely not to find much at the major malls along interstate roads. Get off and away from the interstates and you might be surprised at what you find. Also, it has been our experience that most of the carnival glass collectors also pick up and sell stretch glass. If you can make any of the carnival glass conventions, do so!



Fenton Handled Server #317, Topaz



Fenton Handled Server #317, Celeste Blue



Fenton Vase #400, square, Persian Pearl

Iridescent Stretch Glass

How it is made, the colors, and identifying similar pieces.

Banquet Presentation at the Great Lakes Carnival Club Convention, Lansing, MI, November 3 2023

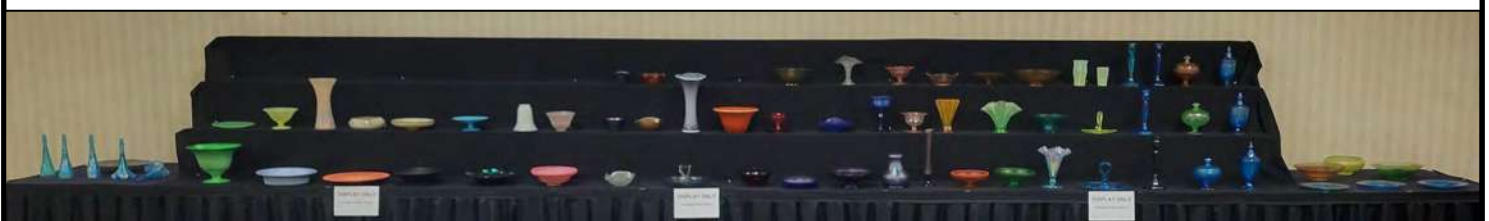
By David Shetlar (the BugDoc)

Maxine Burkhardt contacted me last spring about giving a talk on stretch glass at their November, 2023 Great Lakes Carnival Club convention. I confirmed that I'd be delighted, and we struck a deal for me to give the after-dinner banquet talk.

Renee and I headed out the Thursday before the banquet and hit several antique malls in our quest for acquiring more stretch glass. On Friday, Wally McDaniel had set up a set of nice display shelves in the banquet room. I then unpacked my boxes of stretch glass which included a set that Frank Fenton sold me that illustrated the steps in making a Celeste Blue stretch glass epergne horn. I then proceeded to arrange examples of stretch glass in all the colors known. Many of the participants had never seen the opaque colors. Others were interested in the variations that occur in the "striking" colors, like ruby-amberina and the pinks. Finally, I had sets of the common candy jars, covered bonbons, ground marie plates and 8-inch bowls that look much alike.



Many of the participants came up after my talk to get a closer look at pieces and look at the fine details that are sometimes needed to separate pieces that look much alike. From my conversations, it looks like I may be scheduled for 2025 to talk about stretch glass handled servers! I hope I have enough boxes!!





The Stretch Glass Society extends condolences to John and Vickie Rowe on the passing of John's sister.

VP Message

Glass collecting is a family affair for me. My glass collecting journey started with my parents—enthusiastic carnival glass collectors. I'd go antiquing with them and came to appreciate the beauty of the glass. We had one favorite shop that was full of all sorts of glass, vintage and contemporary. I was always drawn to the one little corner where the vintage stretch glass pieces were displayed. The first piece I bought for myself was an Imperial Jewels plate. So, to embrace The SGS' mission of promoting and preserving stretch glass, I'm starting with the younger generations of my own family!

On the cross country drive home after convention a couple of years ago, I bought stretch glass souvenirs for both of my adult children. I saw a very simple large bowl that had a golden iridescence I believed my son and his partner would like. They married the next year, and their wedding rings and wedding cake both had a laurel leaf pattern. I found them an Egyptian Lustre bowl with gold laurel leaf decoration. Both are prominently displayed in their living room. For my daughter, I found a pair of candleholders/

vases from an antique mall in Southport, Indiana, where my mother grew up. They live on her

dining room table and are often filled with flowers picked by my granddaughters.

Those same granddaughters love to come to my house and help me arrange glass for my seasonal displays. They each have their own favorite pieces from my collection, as well as small collections of their own in their favorite pink and purple colors. Another favorite pastime at my house is making the "yellow and green" glass glow. They are each getting a Topaz lemon server and a black light in their Christmas stockings!

None of them will have hundreds of pieces of stretch glass that fill many shelves, but I think stretch glass will always have a home with them.

Deb Brateng

Deb Brateng, Vice-President





November Stretch Out Discussions

Show Us Your White, Crystal, Pearl & Persian Pearl Stretch Glass
 will be the topic of our *Stretch Out* Discussion on
Thursday, January 11, 2023
 at 8 pm Eastern, 7 Central, 6 Mountain & 5 Pacific Time.

All are welcome to join this Zoom meeting
 Come share in the discussion and show unusual stretch glass.

Even though the Discussion will be led by those who Zoom in to share their stretch glass,
 photos of the glass will be available on our website,
stretchglasssociety.org one week preceding the call.

Further information is available on our email: info@stretchglasssociety.org

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 White, Crystal, Pearl & Persian Pearl Stretch Glass

Time: Jan. 11, 2024 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)
+ 16469313860,,9196004533#,,, *832431513# US

Dial by your location

+ 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)	+ 1 719 359 4580 US
+ 1 646 931 3860 US	+ 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+ 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)	+ 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+ 1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)	+ 1 386 347 5053 US
+ 1 309 205 3325 US	+ 1 564 217 2000 US
+ 1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)	+ 1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 919 600 4533 **Passcode:** 832431513

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9196004533?pwd=aFJ5WkppcFl6SXZDTUIOa3ZjTzk4QT09>

Cal



Convention 2024

By Vickie Rowe

The convention team has been working hard in planning the 50th annual convention, which will take place August 15-17, 2024 in Denver, PA at the Comfort Inn. It was easy to come up with a theme this year – Marigold Stretch Glass! The club display, which will be coordinated by Dave and Renee Shetlar, will feature “marigold” glass, which was produced by most of the companies. Please contact Dave and Renee to let them know which pieces of glass you will bring to add to the display table. There’s lots of options for you to choose from: Diamond’s Gold; Fenton’s Grecian Gold; Imperial’s Rose Ice, Pearl Ruby & Pearl Green; Jeannette’s Gold & Amber; Lancaster’s Rose Ice & Aztec; and Northwood’s “marigold”. Whatever glass you can bring is less glass for them to pack!

Dave is also assembling a display table of SGS souvenirs! It will be a nice variety of shapes and colors, dating back to 1975.

At last year’s convention, the “Show and Share – Unusual, Interesting, Rare, and/or Favorite Glass” was well received and many of the members brought their glass for all of us to see. We have decided to offer this seminar again, as we know that there have been some more new finds since the convention.

There will be a presentation on the history of the Stretch Glass Society. Dave and Renee Shetlar, Cal Hackeman, Jeff Hodges and Joanne Rodgers have been busy researching the archives to share the historical facts of our glass society.

We will be providing additional information in future editions and the registration materials will be sent out sometime in May. We’re looking forward to seeing some new faces along with our faithful convention attendees!



Northwood's Tree of Life Bowls and Comports

By Dave Shetlar

After reviewing the technical articles that I've produced over the decades, I noticed that I only briefly covered what collectors call "Tree of Life" pieces. These were made in stretch glass by Northwood. The term, Tree of Life, appears to be an ancient reference to many potential religious concepts that used a tree as a symbol of balance and harmony, growth and fertility, peace and love, etc. However, when I tried to draw the design used on the Northwood pieces, it became immediately apparent that the lines are much more like what I see in reeds and grasses, not tree trunk bark! But, with a casual inspection, I can see why folks thought that the design looked like tree bark and with the tops spreading out, those could look like the canopy of a tree.

There are three basic forms that Northwood made: a square-footed bowl with the top being treated to make many different forms; a small, eight-sided foot comport; and a taller 12-sided foot comport.

The footed bowls come in all the colors of stretch glass that we know that Northwood made, except for the white, custard and Jade Blue. Also, I only know of one original catalog page that illustrates three of these bowls with their numbers. In the accompanying picture page, these are the bowls and their shapes: Fig. 1, #609, flared in Topaz (also Fig. 21 in Russet); Fig. 2, cupped in emerald green (also, Fig. 16 in marigold); Fig. 3, #807, square in Russet; Fig. 4, #605, "regular" (we would call it a low bowl) in marigold to crystal; Fig. 5, rolled edges or two-sides-up in crystal; Fig. 6, four sides up in Blue Iris; Fig. 7, Jack in the pulpit (JIP) in Royal Purple; and Fig. 8, rose bowl in Topaz. The most difficult shapes to find are the rose bowl and four sides up. I've only seen a couple of each. The two-sides-up forms are usually found in crystal, blue (Fig. 10) and Royal Purple (Fig. 20). Notice that Fig. 9 appears to be the four sides up form, but the base doesn't have the pattern. The color is also a darker purple than the normal Royal Purple stretch. Only a few of the plain-footed bowls have been found which leads me to believe that the bowl was originally made with a plain square foot, but they decided that it wasn't interesting enough, so they added the tree bark/reeds design. I've also included three of



Figure 7



Figure 19

the square-shaped bowls in the three shades of blue: Fig. 11, a pale blue with a slight green cast; Fig. 12, a "normal" blue; Fig. 13, a darker blue that collectors often call "sapphire" blue. The Royal Purple can also vary. Fig. 14 is a bowl that has more of a blue-purple cast, and Fig. 15 is a bowl in the more classic Royal Purple shade. The Jack in the pulpit forms are popular with collectors as they display the stretch effect well: Fig. 17 in Blue; Fig. 18 in crystal; and, Fig. 19 in Topaz. More of the normal bowls are: Fig. 22 in a dark Royal Purple; Fig. 22 in a normal Royal Purple; Fig. 24 in normal Blue; Fig. 25 in emerald green; and, Fig. 26 in Topaz.

In summary, you could potentially amass quite a large collection of just the square-footed bowls if you were able to get all the shapes in all the colors. Difficult colors to obtain are emerald green, Russet, and the darker purples.

The small comports (Figs. 27-33) are fairly obtainable but are only seen in Blue and Topaz. I have heard of a marigold example but have never seen it. If you look inside the stem and bowls of these pieces, you often will find the classic N-in-a-circle logo. The three basic shapes are: "normal" (Figs. 27 & 28), cupped (Fig. 29) and card tray (30). These little comports are also commonly found without the Tree of Life pattern on the stems (Figs. 31-33). When these show up on eBay, you have to check out the stems to see if they are plain or have the design!

The large comports are impressive pieces and are most commonly found in a cupped in shape (Figs. 34-38), occasionally in the "normal" shape (Fig. 39), and often in a cake-plate form (Figs. 40-42). Like the smaller comports, you can sometimes find the N-in-a-circle mark inside the stem where it joins the top. The most common colors are Blue and Topaz. Notice that the three shades of blue can be found (Figs. 34, green-blue; 35, normal Blue; 36, sapphire blue). A truly rare piece showed up some years ago in a translucent custard glass with a marigold iridescence (Fig. 38). Other, less common colors are marigold (Fig. 40) and crystal (Fig. 41)



Figure 40



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

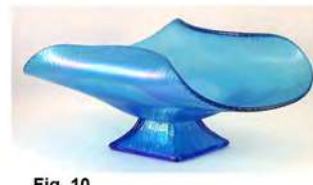


Fig. 10



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



Fig. 30



Fig. 31



Fig. 32



Fig. 33



Fig. 34



Fig. 35



Fig. 36



Fig. 37



Fig. 38



Fig. 39



Fig. 40



Fig. 41



Fig. 42

Hilltop Haven Christmas Open House Features Stretch Glass

By Cal Hackeman and Jeff Hodges

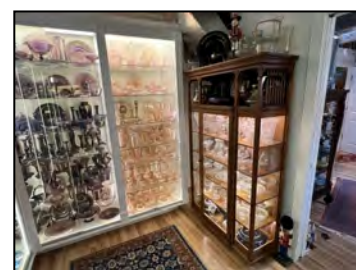
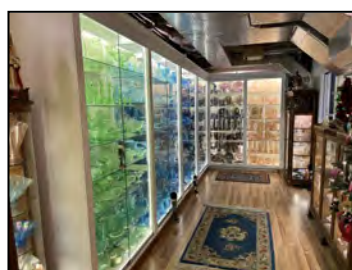
On December 9th and 10th, we hosted visitors from the Robeson Library Christmas House Tour and held our 3rd annual Christmas Open House here at Hilltop Haven. Approximately 120 guests toured our home which had over 30 decorated Christmas trees and many more Christmas decorations. Jeff chose to decorate the dining room in blue and silver. It is stunning. On the table we served savory and sweet treats on Celeste Blue, Blue, Iris Ice, Crystal and Persian Pearl stretch glass. Our Caterers love serving their creations on stretch glass and our guests love seeing the table filled with goodies and stretch glass. Our guests were provided with Celeste Blue and Iris Ice luncheon plates, just as they might have been in the 1920's.



SGS members Billy Shreck and Bob Henkel arrived a couple days earlier and created an array of beautiful floral arrangements in Blue, Celeste Blue and Iris Ice vases and bowls. Their creations are always the final touch to our home for the holidays and they do not disappoint. In the dining room we used the blue Diamond pedestal and bowl with matchstick cutting for one of the largest arrangements. Doesn't it look fantastic?



This was the first occasion most of our friends, neighbors and family had to visit the newly completed stretch glass gallery. This area features 12 floor to ceiling built-in cases and 4 turn of the century oak cabinets. Stretch glass is displayed in all cases. The stretch glass got rave reviews from our guests. Cal spent a portion of both days explaining what stretch glass is, how it is made, who made it, etc. We sent folks home with a 2024 stretch glass society calendar, brochure, convention card and an invitation to join us for our 2024 Convention in Denver, PA.



New Pieces Gathered from Near and Far

By Sandy Sage

Our September search for stretch glass pieces yielded a surprising find at an antique shop just 30 miles from home and a couple of auction wins from a convention across the country.



Located in Salado, Texas, is an antique store that is filled with just about every type of glass from A to Z (American Brilliant Cut to Vaseline). This shop is also one that has a very nice selection of Stretch Glass (something that we never see). During a recent antiquing adventure Bob and I visited the store and found that their collection of Stretch Glass for sale had doubled



since the last time we were there. In one of the cabinets was a pair of topaz comports that I had never seen. I reached out to Dave Shetlar with a photo and he responded almost immediately with a maker and pattern number letting me know that they were Northwood #637. Although the top shaping is the same (both are cupped) one has more of a flare to the top. Needless to say they are a nice addition to our growing collection of Stretch Glass.

The New England Carnival Glass Association (NECGA) convention had two auctions in September, one on a Thursday evening and one on Saturday. We planned to bid on, and hopefully win, one or both of the North-



wood #651 candlestick pairs. These sticks don't seem to come up for auction that frequently although there were a few more pairs that were available to bid on in an auction later that same month. We were happy to win the Celeste Blue pair from the Thursday auction and the Topaz pair from the Saturday auction. These are some heavy candlesticks and could easily double as murder weapons "A la Miss Scarlet in the Lounge with the Candlestick" from the movie "Clue".



A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

Julia and Gary Young from Florida



Sandy Sage graciously asked us to write an item to go with with pictures of stretch glass with holiday decorating in mind. Cal and I came up with some ideas, pictures and captions. Here is the page that Sandy put in the December issue of "Iridescent Stretch Glass". As you can see, it was called "*Stretch Glass Spotlight, Decorating for the Holidays*".

Decorating for the Holidays

By Sandy Sage

Decorating one's home for the holidays is an annual tradition in many countries. Stretch Glass patterns and colors we collect lend themselves beautifully to this custom. We hope the photos below give you inspiration to decorate your own home.

Photos and captions by Cal Hackeman and Jeff Hodges.



***Fenton #604 ruby punch bowl
on a pedestal***



***Blue, aquamarine, white, and crystal
for a "blue" Christmas***



***Fenton's triple dolphin rose
bowl with a five legged
Chinese base***



***Fenton #260 Florentine green
wide flared comport and Stretch
Glass Society coasters***



***Metal tree stand with Fenton
Florentine green butterball tray,
triple dolphin bowl with
diamond optic interior, and
U.S. Glass #310 green special
rolled rim bowl***



***Fenton ruby double dolphin fan
vase 1994 Stretch Glass Society
20th anniversary souvenir***



2024 Stretch Out Discussions

2024 Stretch Out Discussions

Discussions begin at 8 pm Eastern, 7 Central, 6 Mountain & 5 Pacific Time

All are welcome to join the Zoom meetings.

The Discussions will be conducted on the interactive Zoom platform.

The Zoom invitation and photos of the stretch glass being discussed will be available at
www.stretchglassociety.org

Come share in the discussion and show your stretch glass.

The speakers for our discussions are Kitty and Russell Umbraco and Dave Shetlar,
Cal Hackeman, and Sarah Plummer.

January 11, 2024

Show Us Your White, Crystal, Pearl, and Persian Pearl Stretch Glass
(Show & Tell)

March 14, 2024

Stretch Glass Produced at Vineland Flint Glass Works

May 9, 2024

Giants and Dwarfs of Stretch Glass
(Show & Tell)

September 12, 2024

Topaz Stretch Glass (Golden Anniversary of Stretch Society)

November 14, 2024

Optic Patterns in Stretch Glass
(Show & Tell)

Correction!











By Vickie Rowe

Please note that the convention dates are incorrect in the 2024 calendar. I gave Becki Ann the wrong dates when she was working on the calendar. The correct dates are August 15-17, 2024. Please accept my apology for any inconvenience that this may have caused, and please mark your calendars accordingly. Thanks

Red, White, and Green Bowl Holiday Matchup Game

By Jeff Hodges

The winner of this game will be awarded an original piece of pottery that incorporates broken Stretch Glass! I will conduct a drawing from the names of everyone that correctly matches the bowls to their descriptions on 1/31/2024. You can send your completed answers by email at [REDACTED] or mail them to Jeff Hodges, [REDACTED].

- 1  ___ Diamond Green
- 2  ___ Central Florentine Green
- 3  ___ Diamond Crystal
- 4  ___ Imperial Red
- 5  ___ Lancaster Green Lustre
- 6  ___ Imperial Crystal
- 7  ___ Northwood Crystal
- 8  ___ U.S. Glass Green
- 9  ___ Fenton Red
- 10  ___ Diamond Red



Pretty Things

By Tim Cantrell

Nov. 25, 26, I had 95% of my Glass Collection out on display and for sale. I tried for 100%, but ran out of time, energy, and memory -- I totally forgot about my amethyst

Stretch epergne sitting over in a big box in the corner! The auction was successful, for the most part, with not a lot of stretch, but I sold several pieces off the floor at my asking price. I learned what I needed to learn: That the 100s, if not 1000s of collectors that used to flock to Glass Shows in Springfield, MO are apparently no longer around. And my advertising didn't seem to get younger folks interested enough to show up. But, the ones that did were quite impressed, including my son-in-law!

I had professional photos taken and these should be available soon. Now all I have to do is set up my Pretty Things Antique shop again and figure out where to put 50+ totes of glass! I hope I can get my car in the garage this winter!

The 20-30-40 Glass Society of Illinois
Presents our 51st Annual

Glass Show & Sale

Saturday, March 9th, 2024 - 10am to 5pm
Sunday, March 10th, 2024 - 11am to 4pm
Admission: \$11.00 per Person / \$10.00 with this card

Featuring: Depression,
Elegant, Carnival, Pattern, Art,
& Mid-Century Modern Glass,
Pottery & Utensils



Mary Lou's Crystal Repair ♦ Door Prizes ♦ Glass Identification ♦ Reference Library

Location: THE CONCORD PLAZA MIDWEST CONFERENCE CENTER
401 West Lake Street, Northlake, IL 60164
Free parking and shuttle bus to front door

For information, call 708-655-1702 or visit our website at: 20-30-40glassociety.org
Special pre-sale Saturday only 9am to 10am \$15.00 per person

Souvenirs

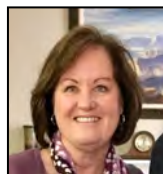
Billy Shreck, Director of Souvenirs, and Vickie Rowe have been working with Frances Burton, a Fenton designer, to offer souvenirs in celebration of the 50th anniversary. Using our stretch topaz opalescent bowls from our 2003 souvenirs, she has created two beautiful designs. Each design will come with the option of an inscription to commemorate the 50th anniversary. We will have pictures in the next edition of the newsletter, as well as pricing information.

STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2023-2024)

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Joan Halliburton



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Director of Outreach
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Membership Administrator
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Gary Sullivan



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(appointed by the Board of Directors)
Becki Ann Selby
critterfarm101@zoomtown.com



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



THE CHEMISTRY OF COLOURED GLASS

Glass is coloured in 3 main ways. It can have transition or rare earth metal ions added; it can be due to colloidal particles formed in the glass; or it can be due to particles which are coloured themselves. This graphic shows some of the typical chemical elements that are used to colour glass.

SODA-LIME GLASS

COMPOSITION

SiO₂ 70-74%

SILICON DIOXIDE

CaO 10-14%

CALCIUM OXIDE

Na₂O 13-16%

SODIUM OXIDE

Soda-lime glass is the most common glass type, making up an estimated 90% of all manufactured glass. Its uses include containers, windows, bottles, and drinking glasses. The above percentages are a general composition only; other compounds are also present in smaller amounts.



These are typical colours, and can be affected by the type of glass as well as the concentration of the colourant. Combination with other elements and compounds can also have an effect on the final colouration of the glass.



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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 1st.

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.stretchglasssociety.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.stretchglasssociety.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]