

Historical Glass Museum

September 2021 Volume 5 Issue 5



KEEPING IN TOUCH

The last couple of months have seen a steady increase in visitors to the Museum. Only one tour group came in October, but several more have expressed interest. If you would like to schedule a group tour (eight or more people), call Bill Summers at 951-850-0915. He may be able to schedule you during the week.

Donations have been coming in, and we have been able to restock the Gift Shop with “new” (to us) items. There are still plenty of brilliant cut glass items from a large donation featured in the June issue. This includes a number of beautiful Waterford crystal animals.

There is quite a bit of Heisey glass, good stemware, and two four-piece depression glass luncheon sets in their original boxes: blue Bubble and yellow Florentine #1. Lots of glass reference books, too. Come shop for the holidays.

Several members gathered at the Museum on November 11-12 to sort through some recent donations of glass. We found quite a few items to add to the Museum’s permanent collection, and selected many items to be sold in the Gift Shop. As a result, we offer a **30% discount** off of our regular low prices, and an extra 10% on top of that for members, now through the end of December.

Museum Location:

1157 N. Orange Street
Redlands, California
909-798-0868

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 9195
Redlands, CA 92375-2395

www.historicalglassmuseum.com

GIFT SHOP

30% OFF

November-December

Due to recent generous donations, we have a good stock of nice glass in the Gift Shop. Buy now for holiday gifts while our sale is in progress. Members get an extra 10% off.



We encourage you to “FOLLOW” our page, as that will alert you to any new posts that are made to the page.

We try to periodically feature an item from the permanent collection so that those who cannot visit the Museum can enjoy our collection.

We also encourage you to share photos of *your collection* on the Facebook page, as others will surely enjoy looking at them.

ON DISPLAY

These are just two shelves of Fostoria’s *American* pattern featuring some of the early production done in color. The majority of *American* items made by Fostoria were colorless crystal, so these items are highly desired by collectors.



A.H. Heisey Glass Company

by Shirley Barnett

Heisey glass is well known for quality tableware and decorative glass figurines. A.H. Heisey and his sons operated the Company making both pressed and blown glassware in a wide variety of patterns and colors.

Augustus H. Heisey was born in Germany and immigrated to America. In 1861 he began his career in the glass industry first as a clerk with the King Glass Company of Pittsburg and then later as a salesman for the Ripley Glass Company in 1865. He married George Duncan's daughter, Susan, in 1870. You may recognize the name – George Duncan was the founder of Ripley Glass, which eventually became Duncan Glass Co.

In 1893 Heisey began making plans for his own glass company and opened his factory in Newark, Ohio, in 1896. The A.H. Heisey Company proclaimed their glass to be "The Glassware of Distinction." The early years focused on fine quality glassware for bars, hotels and restaurants. Heisey utilized high quality raw materials and excellent glass formulas. They completed their pieces by fire polishing and grinding/polishing



the bottom to create the beauty of Heisey glass. The trademark "an H within a Diamond" was designed, registered and granted in

1901. This was the first recognized trademark ever used on glassware. On many items, including stemware, the mark can be found in inconspicuous places. Not all items have a Heisey mark but they can be recognized by their specific patterns and high quality. Some Heisey glassware had a blue and silver paper label with the Diamond H logo as illustrated above. For the first twenty years after the trademark, a large prominent Diamond H identified most of the glass pieces. After 1920 as the molds were being reworked, the size of the Diamond H trademark was reduced and considerably smaller.

Heisey made many popular patterns: Crystolite, Empress, Greek Key, Ridgeleigh, Colonial, Lariat and Plantation to name a few. Eventually, due to increasing costs and foreign competition, Heisey closed the company in 1957. The existing moulds were sold to the Imperial Glass Company in 1958. Imperial produced some Heisey patterns until they, too, went out of business in 1984.

The national Heisey club purchased the moulds.

Although Heisey was well known mainly for their high quality crystal (clear) glass, some colored glass was made early in Heisey history. Most of the prolific colors were produced between 1925 through the early 1940's. The following is a brief summary of the colors of Heisey glass.

Emerald is a dark green color and made as early as 1896. It is known as the first color Heisey used.

Custard, Ivorina Verde is a creamy yellow/green opaque color produced in 1897. It has a high uranium salt content so the glass is very luminous under ultraviolet light.

Opal is a white opaque glass and was produced for a short time frame in 1898 to early 1900.

Canary is a clear yellow-green color from a very light to a deeper color and was introduced in 1897. It was also produced in 1923-1924. This color is scarce and very desirable for collectors.

Moongleam is a modified color from the earlier Emerald to a more transparent deep green to later a blue/green color. It was produced during 1925-1935. It was advertised as "the green of moonlight on the sea" or "the green of summer meadow."

Flamingo was produced during the same time period as Moongleam, it is a rose colored glass and was advertised as "Flamingo like the sunset glow" or "the rose tint of tropical plumage." It was one of the most popular colors and easy to find today for collectors.



Heisey colors from recent donations

Hawthorne was introduced in 1927 and advertised as "the delicate tint of the amethyst." This color was not popular and was discontinued in 1928. The collector has to be careful in identifying a true Hawthorne colored piece since it can be mistaken as sun-colored.

(continued from page 2)

Marigold is a dark gold color produced for a limited time between 1929-1930 due to the production difficulties and deterioration of the glass color. It was advertised as “sparkling with golden sheen.”

Sahara is a more delicate transparent yellow, lighter than Marigold and was in production from 1930-1937. It was advertised as “the yellow of sunny sands” or “bright with the golden tone of sunshine.” It is a popular color and easy to find today.

Alexandrite is a clear lavender color produced from 1930-1935. It was advertised as “the delicate glow of treasured amethyst.” It was an expensive color to produce. This color can turn a blue-green under florescent light. It is highly sought by collectors today and it still commands a high price.

Tangerine is a deep orange-red color and can range to a light orange. It was produced from 1932-1935. There were again difficulties in producing a consistent color, resulting in limited production. This color is scarce today, and the most expensive of Heisey’s production colors.

Stiegel Blue (Cobalt) is a rich deep dark blue color produced from 1933-1941. This color is popular with collectors today.

Zircon/Limelight is a light turquoise blue green color with some color variation produced from 1936-1939. It was reintroduced as Limelight from 1955-1957. It is a popular color for collectors today.

Amber is a yellowish-brown color and it is not well documented in the history of colors made by Heisey. It was produced from 1926 through the 1950s and reintroduced as Sultana and Honey Amber in 1957. Most of the early production pieces were for the Fred Harvey Restaurants. The Amber animals and figural stemware pieces are difficult to find today, as well as expensive.



Paper label used by Imperial Glass Co. on items they made from original Heisey moulds.

Dawn is a transparent charcoal gray color produced from 1955-1957. This was the last production color by Heisey. It was advertised as “versatile smoke or charcoal color that blends with any color scheme.” This is one of the scarcest colors due to the short production period, making it another desirable color for collectors.

You can learn more about Heisey glassware from the Heisey Club of California (heiseyclubca.org) and the Heisey Collectors of America (heiseymuseum.org).

THANKS TO OUR DONORS ...

We would like to acknowledge the donations of glass or other items, to be used either for display at the Museum or to be sold in the Gift Shop to support the Museum’s operations.

CASH DONATIONS:

SEPTEMBER

Lynette Smith - \$200
James Miller - \$50

OCTOBER

Margo & Phil Stein - \$50
Connie Walker - \$20

NOVEMBER

Wendy Steelhammer - \$67

NON-MONETARY DONATIONS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Andy Harsh
Bill Summers
Fred Christian
Tim & Katie Anderson
Judy Ferguson
Richard & David Gore
Wendy Steelhammer
Michael Krumme
Donald Jennings
Bert Kennedy
Dan Hazeltine
Andrea Burke

We must also acknowledge the donation of TIME from those who maintain our collection, serve as docents and participate in the general cleaning days (third Thursday of each month). Thanks to all!

Group Tours of the Museum



We're back in business for handling tour groups. We do, however, require wearing of masks, per CDC guidelines.

Weekday group tours for groups of 8 or more visitors are available by appointment. The charge is \$5.00 per person, with a minimum charge of \$40.00. For information and bookings, call Bill Summers at **951-850-0915**.

Tour bus parking and a handicap ramp are available. The museum entrance and wheelchair ramp are located at the rear parking lot. There is also parking along the street curb on Western at Orange.

At the time of publication, no tours have been scheduled for the months of November and December. But we're ready!

RESTORATION FUND

The Board of Directors established a Restoration Fund designated to set aside funds for restoration and maintenance of our century-old building.

The next phase of restoration will be a new roof, but it seems like the current roof is still fairly sound, so we have time to raise additional funds towards its eventual replacement.

The fund's balance stands at: \$20,140.

The Board welcomes cash donations designated for the Restoration Fund. You may designate "in Memory of " or "in Honor of " with your donation.

Checks should be made out to the Museum, with a note designating the Restoration Fund. Send to:

Historical Glass Museum
P. O. Box 9195
Redlands, CA 92375-2395

NOVEMBER 2021 FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello all:

We are coming to the end of another year. We have been very fortunate to have generous donations given throughout the year including cash, glass and personal time commitment.

I personally would like to thank Andy Harsh who recently donated 848 pieces of beautiful Heisey glassware from his parents' glass collection (David & Jean Harsh). In addition, I want to express appreciation to Linda Lowe and her friend Karen Hargrove for spending hours helping us identify pieces of the collection. Many of the pieces will be placed on permanent display in the Museum. Some were priced and placed in the Gift Shop.

With all of the recent donations, we have a lot of new items in the Gift Shop. As a result, we will be having a 30% off sale (40% for members) through the end of the year. I wish all a great and happy holiday season and look forward to the new year. Be safe and healthy.

Steve

RECENTLY FEATURED ON FACEBOOK

As a way to promote interest in the Museum, we have been posting photos featuring interesting pieces from the Museum collection on our Facebook page.



This very scarce goblet is the FLORET etching by Morgantown Glass Co. on their YALE stem. The goblet was a gift to the Museum by member Bert Kennedy.

LARGE DONATION OF HEISEY GLASS

In early September, the Museum received a large donation of Heisey glass from Andy Harsh, his wife, Heather and daughter Aubree. There were 15 boxes containing 848 pieces of Heisey! The collection belonged to Andy's parents, David and Jean Harsh.



Andy, Heather and Aubree Harsh delivering boxes

Some of the boxes were too large to bring upstairs to our storage area, so were instead stacked in the front lobby of the Museum.



We really didn't want to leave this stack of boxes in the lobby when we were open for visitors, so we organized a session to unpack, sort, identify and re-pack this wonderful donation. Here are just a few items spread out for ID:



The two ladies in the photo below, life member Linda Lowe (standing) and Karen Hargrove, came in to help us identify and sort the Heisey glass donation.



A large number of items were designated to be sold in the Gift Shop, but quite a few fine examples of Heisey's production were retained as part of the permanent collection.

Here is a nice piece of Heisey's Zircon – a color we didn't have an example of. This is just one of the items from the donation that will become part of the permanent collection.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter, we would like to welcome the following new members. Thanks to all:

Patricia Fichtner
Andy Harsh
Rita Tucker
Dr. Ellen Randolph

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

We are happy to announce that we have had two new lifetime members this year. Thanks go to:

Michael Krumme
Linda McCracken