

# Historical Glass Museum

January 2023 Volume 7 Issue 1



## Museum Location:

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

## Mailing Address:

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



The Museum has a page on Facebook, for those who like to indulge in social media. Search for REDLANDS HISTORICAL GLASS MUSEUM. (There is an older page without the word Redlands, but we currently are not able to update it.)

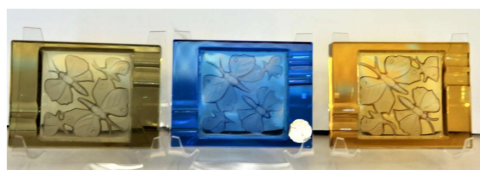
We encourage you to “FOLLOW” our page, as that will alert you to any new posts that are made to the page. If you would like to share photos of your collection, others will surely enjoy looking at them.

## Keeping in Touch

The Museum was closed for the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s weekends, so visitation was slower than normal. However, things were still happening since the last newsletter.

Our Facebook page has been featuring photos of some pieces of Steuben and other Art Glass from the Museum collection. We’re trying to expand our sphere of influence to glass collectors who may not have heard about the Museum. When you check us out, be sure to “like” the post and “follow” us.

## WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 11



As we resume operations, we are pleased to announce another in the series of Workshops to be held on February 11<sup>th</sup>. More information is on page 6.

Finally, we have scheduled two tours for the month of February. A group of 20 persons from Plymouth Village will arrive on Thursday January 26th, and a tour group from the Redlands Historical Society comes on Saturday January 28th with 35 to 40 persons.

## YOUR INPUT

We would like to encourage all of our members to share their experiences with glass. In each newsletter we try to have at least one article about a glass company or pattern, or even an experience related to glass collecting.

Most articles in the past have come from one or more of our Board members. While those articles are certainly of interest, we would like to hear from

## YOU.

Yes, we are asking you to send us an article about your favorite pattern, a visit to a glass museum, perhaps your use of glass in a holiday decoration, an exciting find at an antique shop. Something you would like to have read about in the newsletter would be exactly what others would like, too. We invite you to share with all of us.

Send your article to:  
[webmaster@HistoricalGlassMuseum.com](mailto:webmaster@HistoricalGlassMuseum.com)

## OUR WEBSITE

### [Historicalglassmuseum.com](http://Historicalglassmuseum.com)

The Museum has a web site, where we post information related to the organization, such as a list of officers, how to contact us, a brief history of the Museum, membership information and other items.

We have posted a video of the local TV show “Voice of the Inland Empire,” which did an interview (in 2018) with our president, Steve Barnett, and presented a tour of the inside of the Museum. Since then, our displays have changed, so you will need to come in and see what’s new.

## CHILDREN'S TOY GLASS

By Doreen Ward

Tea sets and other child-sized dishes were quite popular in Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These sets were generally made of either porcelain, pottery or metal. Originally, these items were made for the children of wealthy families. The 1860's marked the start of mass production of toy dishes. An 1890 Butler Brothers catalog shows that there were toy sets available in the United States for the taste and means of every family. Children's tea sets were available in price from five cents to five dollars.

Toy glass sets, or Children's glass sets (as opposed to china or pottery) were made by several American glass companies as collector sets or as play sets for children. The prime years of manufacture of glass sets were the 1920s to the late 1940s. These toy pieces were made as table sets, berry sets, candlesticks, plates, mugs, lemonade or water sets, and punch bowl sets, to name a few. Some of the many American companies who produced toy glass sets and pieces were Hobbs, Akro Agate, Westmoreland, Jeanette, Anchor-Hocking and the Fenton Art Glass Company.

Some of the well-known and collectible depression glass patterns featured children's sets including Cherry Blossom, Doric & Pansy, Homespun, Laurel, and Moderntone. Toy glass came in a wide variety of pieces, in an array of colors and patterns and, although the production life of these beautiful miniatures was relatively short, the sets remain collectible today.



In 1980, Doris Anderson Lechler, noted author on the topic of Children's glass, brought an idea to the Fenton Art Glass Company to reproduce some of her favorite pieces and sets. They liked the suggestion and produced a number of children's water sets. Each set and color was limited to 500 pieces.

The Historical Glass Museum Foundation has several of these Fenton sets on display and a number of them are are pictured.



Custard lemonade set. Hand painted violets. Artist Linda Everson. Private collection.



Fenton Burmese set.. On display at the Historical Glass Museum. On loan from a private collection.



Fenton cranberry opalescent hobnail lemonade set. Tray is French opalescent. On display at the Historical Glass Museum. On loan from a private collection.

## 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. The following people donated glass and/or other items since the last newsletter. Thanks to all for your support of the Museum.

### CASH DONATIONS:

#### December 2022

\$200.00 Lucretia Irving  
\$65.00 Rosie Sogorka and Beth Hauge  
\$50.00 Margo & Phil Stein  
\$150.00 Wendy Steelhammer  
\$200.00 David Adams

### NON-MONETARY DONATIONS

#### December 2022

Doreen Ward  
Gretchen Midgley  
Jim Schools  
Linda Keenan  
Jacque Rocha  
Judith Kipp  
Susan Lominska  
Greg Moline

The Board of Directors would like to thank each of these donors for their generosity.



The first day at Antique Station

## AN EXCITING DEVELOPMENT

The Historical Glass Museum has an exciting announcement! After a year of being on the waiting list, we have finally landed a showcase at the Antique Station antique mall in Old Town Orange, California.

You may ask, why does the Museum need a showcase in an antique mall miles away from the Museum's hometown of Redlands?

The answer is **glass donations**. Each year, the Museum receives many "in-kind" donations of antique and collectible glassware. These donations come from multiple sources: members downsizing collections; members who have passed away and named the Museum as the recipient of their glass collection in their estate planning documents; and members of the general public who hear about us and donate glassware from their collection or the estate of a family member.

Historically, members of the Museum's board of directors, docents, and volunteers have sorted the donated glass. They identify exceptional items that are deserving of permanent placement in the Museum, versus items which are identical to, or similar to, types of glass already on display. Items not selected for the permanent collection – the vast majority – are inspected, washed, priced, and placed in the Museum's gift shop.

The proceeds of sale of glass sold in the gift shop create an income flow to help pay the Museum's monthly operating expenses. The basic cost of keeping the Museum open to the public runs, on average, approximately \$1,000 per month. This figure includes things like utilities, security, pest control, gardening, and merchant fees paid to our credit card processor. However, in any given month, we might also have to pay for one or more of the following: repairs and maintenance, insurance, property taxes, printing, postage, sales taxes, advertising, city inspection fees, business license fees, the post office box rental fee, bank fees, tax return preparation fees, or website hosting charges. These "periodic" fees increase the amount the Museum must pay out each month, sometimes doubling the Museum's average basic expenses.

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## AN EXCITING DEVELOPMENT

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In a “good” month, the Museum gift shop may generate anywhere from \$800 to \$1,000 in sales. Sales peak during the cooler months, when we have more visitors and tours coming through the Museum. Sales also increase during our periodic discount sales. However, in the hot summer months, gift shop sales tend to decrease, due to fewer people visiting us.

To complicate things, in recent years, the Museum has received both an increased number of glass donations, as well as several sizable donations of individual collections. While a blessing to the Museum’s fundraising efforts, it also presents a challenge, due to the Museum’s limited space available to store glass, and the small size of our gift shop.

Having an “auxiliary” gift shop in Orange gives us a second outlet to sell donated glass – in effect, a gift shop that is open eight hours a day, seven days a week, and closed only on major holidays. It also gives us another way to spread awareness of the Museum, and, we hope, generate more visitors and tours, and increase membership.

Finally, we need to give credit to the people who helped make the “auxiliary gift shop” come to fruition. Board Member Michael Krumme, a charter member of the Museum, proposed the idea to the board. Michael visited several antique malls in Old Town Orange, and was most impressed by Antique Station. He spoke to their staff, and placed our name on the waiting list. Member Lisa Ackerman Baldwin, who owned an independent antique shop with her late mother in the area, further assisted the effort by checking in with her colleagues who have spaces or showcases at the mall. Lisa alerted Michael to an upcoming vacancy, which he reported to the Board.

The Board approved the terms, and Michael set to work selecting a variety of glass to be put in the showcase. Vice President Bill Summers helped pack the glass. Michael washed and priced the items, and re-packed them for transport. Michael cleaned and stocked the showcase (with Lisa’s assistance and experienced guidance) on move-in day, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Museum member Wendy Steelhammer graciously made a cash donation of \$150 to cover the first month’s rent for the showcase.

Member Cheryl Bryan brought Michael some additional items, which were placed in the showcase. The first sale at the booth was to member Joseph Krumme, who purchased a Fenton cranberry hobnail basket with opalescent swirl for his collection of glass baskets. Board member David Adams is working on ideas for signage for the showcase, including an oversize image of the Museum’s facade to hang on the wall above it.

We hope that the efforts of Museum members, coupled with the enthusiasm of Antique Station’s sales staff, will make Showcase #89 a profitable venture for the Museum, and a “destination” for glass collectors (as well as members of the public who don’t yet know they will soon become avid glass collectors!). Please visit often to check the array of offerings, and tell your friends and family members about us.



Antique Station is located at 178 South Glassell Street, Orange, California 92866. Their telephone number is (714) 633-3934.

To reach Antique Station, take the Chapman/Glassell - North exit off the 22 Garden Grove freeway. At Almond Street, where the Old Town Orange business district starts, turn left, and then turn right into the parking lot behind Haven Craft Kitchen restaurant. To ensure you are granted a parking space, be sure to tell the parking attendant you are there to visit Antique Station. There is a walkway between Haven and Antique Station. Though the street address is on Glassell, the entrance is on the south side of the building, not on Glassell. When you enter, be sure to ask the staff at the front desk to direct you to Space 89, the showcase for the Historical Glass Museum, to let them know that we are spreading the word about our “second gift shop” in their mall.

## Group Tours of the Museum



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.

We have scheduled two large groups for January. First, a group from Plymouth Village of 20 persons on Thursday January 26th, and a tour group from the Redlands Historical Society on Saturday January 28th for 35 to 40 persons. There is also a tentative group of 15 coming in April.

## 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 major upgrade to the landscaping around the Museum is nearly completed (need to finish work on sidewalk). The project had been approved by the City and it complied with the historical appearance of our 100+ year old building.

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

The current balance in the fund is: \$22,952.37.

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

## JANUARY 2023 FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Welcome to a new year.

I was pleased to see so many new regular and lifetime members sign up over the past year. I look forward to increasing our tours and seminars this year and hope to have them more accessible online.

I'm also excited for our new adventures with the Antique Station; thanks Michael Krumme. I must also acknowledge our wonderful volunteers and docents who keep our museum functioning and open.

Hope to see you soon and happy hunting!

*Steve*

### Support Historical Glass Museum Foundation.

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazon smile

For those of you who shop online at **Amazon.com**, there is a way that you can support the Museum while doing so, and it won't cost you a cent!

You first go to **SMILE.AMAZON.COM** and sign in with your regular Amazon login information. Then, you choose "Historical Glass Museum" as your charity. That's it. That's all you have to do. You're finished.

Now, whenever you want to shop Amazon, sign into **SMILE.AMAZON.COM** instead, and shop away. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to the Museum. You will NOT be charged.

Other members have done so, as the Museum received **\$85.75** from Amazon for the year 2022. If you sign up, next year's total could be even higher.

## February 11<sup>th</sup> workshop

We are pleased to announce the first workshop of 2023. It will be held on February 11<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11:00am. The topic is “**Verlys Glass.**” It will be led by Thomas Rigali-Roy, a long time collector of Verlys, who presented us with a large donation of Verlys last year.

The story of Verlys is rather interesting. The original company was opened in France in 1920, as a satellite factory of the Holophane Glass Company of London, England. The factory was specifically opened to make headlight lenses for automobiles. At around the same time, Rene Lalique was producing art glass in France, and in 1925, the French subsidiary of Holophane opened its own subsidiary, Verriere d’Andelys, (the name shortened to Verlys). This factory made glass similar to Lalique.

In 1935, Verlys expanded to the United States. They established a factory in Newark, Ohio, (across from the A.H. Heisey Company) where imported French molds were used to make the same type of items. Glass from this second factory was dubbed Verlys of America.

This Workshop centers on Verlys Glass that was produced here in America, by Verlys and companies that acquired the moulds after its demise (Heisey and Fenton).

Bring a chair, if you can. If you’d like, bring a piece or two for the discussion. Light refreshments will be served.



Gemstone vase in amber



Wild duck vase in Directors blue

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

There is much to celebrate for the year 2022: We added 29 new members, and 3 lifetime members.

### NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER:

Cindy Mc Lean  
Karin Wesdell

### HOW CAN YOU HELP THE HISTORICAL GLASS MUSEUM?

There are many ways to support the Museum. We are a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, and donations are deductible on your income tax returns, to the fullest extent of current tax laws. Please speak to your accountant or tax professional for details about your particular situation.

Another way to support the Museum, and expand our membership numbers, is to give a Gift Membership to the Museum. Why not give a Gift Membership to a friend who collects glass, but may not know about us? Annual dues are only \$30 for a basic membership, plus \$5 for each additional person in the household. Membership dues for a glass club or other organization are only \$30 per year. And if a person is a full-time student, dues are only \$10 per year.

By the way, anyone can become a Life Member for a one-time payment of \$1,000. Life Members pay no annual dues. We added three Life Members in 2022.

If you live within a reasonable distance of the Museum, your support could be in the form of TIME. We need volunteer docents (we will train you) who would want to work one or two weekend days a month from noon to 4pm. It’s fun, you meet lots of nice people, and you are supporting our efforts.

You could also make a donation of glass or glass related items. It would really help our all-volunteer staff if you could provide a list describing the contents of your donation. We really don’t have enough storage area to handle non-glass related items – for those we recommend that you donate them to a thrift store that you support.

Of course, you can make a cash donation to the Museum, at any time, in any amount.