

Historical Glass Museum

June 2023 Volume 7 Issue 3



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.* Just reply to any post.

Keeping in Touch

Things have been bustling at the Museum for the past couple of months. We had 105 visitors in April and 96 in May. That keeps our volunteer docents quite busy. If you would like to volunteer as a docent, even one day a month, we would love to have you. We had a bus tour of 23 visitors in April, and have a couple more tours scheduled in the coming months.

FROM THE COLLECTION



Historical Glass Museum

The above paperweight is almost four inches in diameter and was crafted in 1989 by artist Rick Ayotte. Donated by Nina Mashburn.

GIFT SHOP NEWS

Sales have been good in the Gift Shop, with over \$2,000 in sales in April, and nearly \$1,500 in May. Steve & Shirley have been keeping the shop re-stocked with fresh merchandise as sales take place. Remember, this is a major source of our funding.

Provident Bank makes a yearly donation to the HGM and this year we received \$484.33 from their program. Thanks.

UP ON THE ROOF

We have made a \$1,000 deposit to Eleazar's Roofing in Redlands. They applied to the City for approval, and have to fill out some forms, and take "before" pictures. The City provided a checklist of things to do. Since our building is historical, there are certain requirements. We welcome donations towards the roof replacement project.



The Museum sign was in desperate need of repair and Jim Stewart stepped forward and made it look good as new. Jim also spent time moving some trees on the property. Thank you, Jim for your contributions.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER:

Sally Hill
Mark & Megan Gearhart
Dr. Diane Kelley
Roxy Valentine
Andy Hoder

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Linda and David Adams

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.

FINDING TREASURES ON A BUDGET

By Doreen Ward

After I went to my first glass workshop at the Historical Glass Museum several years ago, I couldn't wait to find treasures of my own. After looking through some wonderful antique malls, I began to realize how expensive my new hobby could be.

I also needed to learn to identify the pieces correctly so I could be sure I knew what I was buying. I needed to find an inexpensive place to buy and to learn some identification skills. The answer? Thrift stores, social media sales sites, and garage sales.



Found this on a social media site. \$20 for this vintage Anchor Hocking chip and dip set and it had the original box.

Local thrift stores quickly became my after work "go to" place and Saturday morning destination. I didn't always find pieces, but when I did, I grabbed them. I practiced my identification skills at the same time and on a budget I was comfortable with. I figured if the piece I bought was not what I had thought, my investment was small and didn't break the budget.



Found this on a social media site. A Fenton Peach Crest basket. \$20.

Social media sales sites came a little later when my identification skills were stronger and I knew what I was looking at and what to look for. I had also narrowed down what I wanted to collect by this time, as the other lesson I learned was that going in multiple directions can lead to a mixed collection.



One of my best finds ever. A 1942 Mulberry jug. \$40 . Again, social media sales site.

Don't overlook online glass collectors groups either. The items for sale can be reasonably priced and are generally correctly identified before they are put up for sale. And buying from other collectors can be a great way to meet other glass enthusiasts and to learn even more about your new hobby.



Fenton Daisy and Button Crystal dresser fan shape tray. Under \$10 from a local thrift store.

(continued on next page)

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:

April-

\$100-Ralph Beachler
\$100-Cindy Nielsen
\$100-Martha McGill
\$100-Cheryl Bryan
\$350-Wendy Steelhammer

May

\$73-Beth Hauge
\$20-Leeann Taylor
\$30-Sharon Udkoff

NON-MONETARY DONATIONS

Barbette Potts	Pamela Fluegeman
Bill Summers	Doreen Ward
Daniel Rodriguez	Joe Rios
Deloris Harrigal	Michael Stevenson
Lynne King	Beverley J. Hanson

Andy Hoder –Replaced front gate, repaired side gate, and absorbed all expenses for the project.
Thank you, Andy. Looks great!

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

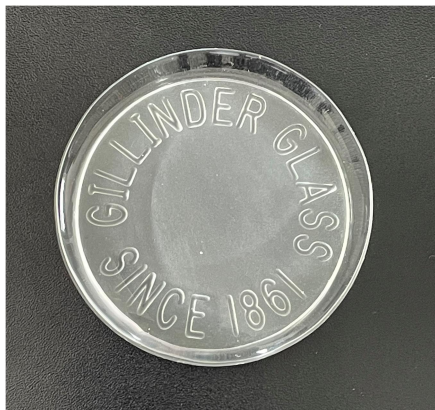
FINDING TREASURES (continued)

And, I have to mention the terrific sales that are held periodically at the Historical Glass Museum! I have bought several pieces there over the years and the prices are amazing so keep an eye out for those dates. They offer great discounts to members and to visitors alike on those sales days, so take a drive over to the Museum and see what's new in the gift shop!



Fenton Hobnail milk glass vase.
Under \$7 from a local thrift store.

The Museum would be pleased to feature YOUR recent finds or a portion of your collection in an article in our newsletter. Please share your experiences with our members.



Gillinder glass paperweight donated by Beverley J. Hanson.

It is 3 inches in diameter and about 3/4 of an inch thick.

At left is a commemorative paper weight issued by the Gillinder Glass Company. Most of us have not heard of this company, which is still producing glass in 2023!

Gillinder began in 1861, in Philadelphia. Most of Gillinder's early production was "coal lamps and chimneys of every description." Between 1861 and 1871, William T. Gillinder is credited with creating a group of paperweights. The majority of the known paperweights were produced in millefiori designs.

Gillinder produced some noteworthy EAPG patterns, and for a short time became a member of the United States Glass Company (Factory G). When they left the US Glass Co, they agreed not to produce pressed tableware for a period of 20 years.

Skipping along, the factory moved to Port Jarvis, NY, in 1921 and today, Gillinder Brothers is operated by the fifth generation. The factory is one of only two glass plants in the United States utilizing pots to melt the glass. The business employs fifty workers and continues to produce industrial, commercial and military lighting in an impressive range of colors.

Sometimes, an unusual piece like this paperweight challenges us to learn a little bit more about it, and the company that produced it.

BEAUMONT GLASS CO.

A Partial History

Percy J. Beaumont was an Englishman whose glassmaking career began when he immigrated to the United States in 1882 with his sister, who married Harry Northwood of the Northwood Glass Company.

Northwood trained Percy, and by 1890, Percy opened his own glassblowing company in Martins Ferry, Ohio, which produced tableware and decorative pieces (EAPG) for several years until



**Beaumont "Flora" pattern (1898)
in blue opalescent**

In 1906, Percy assumed the job as Manager of the Union Stopper Company, of Morgantown, WV. A couple of years later, in 1908, the National Child Labor Committee hired Lewis W. Hine to investigate and photograph *child labor conditions* throughout the country. That same year, Hine visited the Union Stopper Company where he took a number of pictures of the conditions inside the plant.

In 1913, Percy was reporting over \$150,000 in annual profit, and the company employed 175 people : 50% men, 30% boys, 20% girls, and with over 40% of the total workforce being "skilled."



**Beaumont Vase in their "Fer-Lux" color.
This color was used for lamp shades for
both gas and electric lighting.**

By 1918, the company's name had changed to Beaumont Glass Company. According to sources describing the glass making industry in the 1920s through the 1960s, the Beaumont Company "was known for its light shades, inkwells, and light globes," producing glass throughout the Great Depression and becoming one of the county's premier glass lighting and light-fixture manufacturers. Percy died in 1947, leaving the Beaumont Company to his grandson, Arthur B. Beaumont who served as manager until 1962.



Beaumont single "keyhole" candlesticks.
These were made in several colors,
including black and "Fer-Lux."

The company remained in Beaumont hands until 1988 when it was bought by Michael Carlow, who also owned the L. E. Smith Glass Company of Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania. Carlow was accused of *running a check-kiting scheme* in the early 1990s and by 1996 was convicted and sentenced to six years in prison.

While the Smith Glass Company continued producing glass until 2004, Beaumont was not so fortunate, as it was forced to close its doors in 1991 because it could not pay any of its loans, in part, no doubt, because it was one of the many victims of Carlow's check-kiting scheme. On June 30, 1994, the Beaumont Company property, building, and all its contents were sold to SME Industries.



**Beaumont lamp shade in their
"Fer-Lux" color, with floral decoration.**

This article was extracted (and slightly modified) from:
Curtin, Pamela. "Beaumont Glass Factory
(Union Stopper Glass Factory) ."
<https://theclio.com/entry/53997>

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.

The Museum welcomed one tour in April, with 15 persons. The next tours are scheduled for 34 persons on June 15th, and 20 persons on July 11th.

RESTORATION FUND

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

At last, we need to look towards a new roof. The roof survived the winter's heavy rains in California with only a minor leak, but it's definitely time to address the issue as we head into the dry time of year. Along those lines, we have signed a contract with a local roofing company, and they are in the stages of obtaining permits from the City. The total expenditure is estimated to be \$25,500.

The current balance in the fund is: **\$23,956.47**. The Board welcomes cash donations designated for the Restoration Fund. You may also 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

JUNE 2023 FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It has been an interesting year so far at the Museum. I am especially grateful for all our volunteers in helping with various projects.

We had to move many boxes of glass from our upstairs storage to a storage facility in preparation for the second-floor foundation repair and roof replacement.

The old Museum sign collapsed and was repaired by Jim Stewart, a longtime member. Jim and two local Valley College students volunteered to move 3 trees in the front landscape away from the building.

A local resident, Andy Hoder proposed and paid for the replacement of our iron fence around the front of the property. It looks fantastic! He has also been steadily trimming many of our border trees.

Our roof replacement has been approved by the city and should be started soon.

We had a great Mother's Day weekend with lots of mothers and visitors taking advantage of the sale. We still have lots of glass for sale in the gift shop, and we hope to see you soon.

Steve

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for one or more volunteers to help us make "tent cards" for our displays. Board member Doreen Ward volunteered to prepare the labels, and we just need help to fold the cards and apply the labels. Contact Museum Secretary Shirley Barnett shirleybarnett@verizon.net if you are willing to help, to arrange for a time and place to work on this project.

Many of our displays currently have either no description at all or hastily hand-written cards. This project will help make our displays more appealing.



APRIL 15 FENTON WORKSHOP

On Saturday, April 15, Museum vice president Bill Summers led a workshop on the topic: “Fenton Coin Dot and Polka Dot, and Rarities.” This was another in a series of workshops that have become very popular at the Museum.

This workshop featured 23 guests, so many that we ran out of chairs (and almost ran out of room, too). Bill brought a number of examples for the talk from his personal collection to illustrate some of the points in his talk.

Assisting Bill were two of our Museum docents, Bob Crha and Greg Sloan. In a moment of levity, they are shown at right “fighting” over Bill’s Fenton pitcher.



The talk was educational and the discussion lively. Each attendee was presented with a piece of Fenton glass as a door prize. Light refreshments were served and the Gift Shop was open for brisk sales.

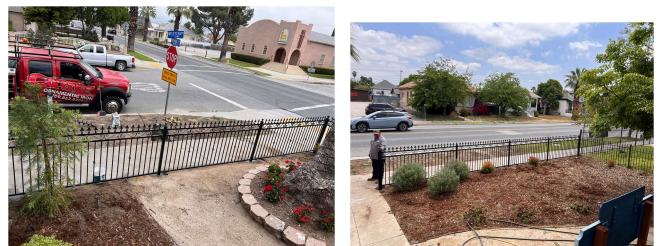
The next workshop will be sometime in the fall, as we tend to avoid gatherings during the hot summers in Redlands.

HOW ABOUT THAT NEW FENCE

The old wrought iron fence around the Museum was in bad shape and needed replacement. To the rescue came new member Andy Hoder, who not only installed brand-new fencing, but provided it to the Museum at no cost! Thanks from all of us to Andy. It really makes the place look great.



Andy and the new gate



The new fence surrounding the front of the Museum.