

# Historical Glass Museum

November 2025 Volume 9 Issue 5



## Museum Location:

1157 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

In late September, the Museum participated in the first annual Heritage Fair, sponsored by the Redlands Area Historical Society, staged to support the various museums and organizations in the Redlands area. Visitors were introduced to our Museum by three of our members. See page 3 for the story.

August was busy, with 129 visitors, but then visitation slowed down, with a count of 43 in September and 59 in October.

## GIFT SHOP NEWS

We had a 30% off sale during September in the Gift Shop, as we had a couple of nice donations of glass earmarked for that purpose. These sales support our day-to-day operations. ***We again offer 30% off in our Gift Shop through the end of this year. Christmas gifts, anyone?***

## TOURS

In September, we had 9 visitors from the Inland Empire Photo Club. They shared a couple of their photos, shown in the next column.

## NEW DOCENT

We are pleased to announce Renee Barrette as our newest docent. As an all-volunteer organization, we treasure those folks who help keep the Museum running. Welcome aboard, Renee.

## FROM THE COLLECTION



The Inland Empire Photo Club visited the glass museum on September 13 with (9) members. Here are photo, taken by Lauri Lynn Photos during the visit. They shared the photographs that they took with us, so we can share some of them with our members. Above is a beautiful Imperial Glass Co. punch set.



And this is their photo of our window full of cruets.

## JANET KORFMACHER 1935 - 2025

The Historical Glass Museum Foundation lost a Board member and ardent supporter on July 30. Jan graduated from the Univ. of Washington with a B.S. in Medical Technology in 1957. She met husband Stan in San Francisco. They married in 1963 and moved to Redlands that year.

Jan served on the Redlands School Board, as President of the Redlands Bowl Associates, the Cultural Arts Commission, Docent at the Lincoln Memorial and Kimberly Crest, the Redlands Conservancy, and as the Gala Committee Chair for the Redlands Symphony.

Jan was a constant. If she said she was coming to docent, she came; she always showed up! At Board meetings, she didn't talk a lot, but she was listening intently and always spoke up when she had something to add.

We are grateful to Jan for her many years of service to the Museum. She will be missed.

## McKEE GLASS COMPANY – EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

The McKee-Jeannette Glass Works emerged from the failed National Glass Combine and in 1910, the factory was renamed the McKee Glass Co. Early production consisted of mainly pressed glass tableware and decorative items made to look like cut glass (pattern names like Aztec, Toltec, etc.).

In 1917, McKee Glass Co. started to make and sell auto headlight lenses to meet the new antiglare and dimming laws which were aimed to reduce nighttime car-related fatalities. By 1935, the company provided auto lenses for Ford's entire line of cars.

Also, in 1917, the company introduced **Glasbake**, a line of glass cookware. These products were made with borosilicate glass, which is extremely heat resistant, thus allowing the products to be used in the oven. They also began to produce many utility items for use in the kitchen. McKee oven-top salt/pepper sets (and they made LOTS of them) are popular in today's collectible market, along with colorful canisters and bowls, often decorated with enamel.

In 1932, the company introduced the "**Bottoms-Up**" set (pictured in opposite column) and in 1933, the **vacuum coffee maker** was introduced (advertisement below). The following year, the company partnered with the Detroit Jewel company to include *Glasbake* items with the sale of their gas ranges.



Subsequently, the company introduced a line of refrigerator glass containers and then the mixing bowls that were originally created for the Sunbeam Mix Master were released to be sold as a set of three. In 1940, Kroger placed an order for 3,000,000 Glasbake items as part of Kroger's 58th birthday at a reported cost of \$250,000.

In 1942, the company launched a campaign encouraging people to use glass to "*save vital metals for war production*" and followed up by introducing its range top **Range-Tec** cooking line (an example pictured below). This line permitted the housewife to cook a meal entirely without using metal utensils. Range-Tec is also made with borosilicate heat resistant glass.



Range-Tec frying pan

In 1951, the company announced their merger with Thatcher Industries. Production continued and the company underwent several more name and ownership changes before being acquired by Jeannette Glass Co. (both firms were located in Jeannette, PA). The firm finally closed in 1983. The Museum's September 2024 Newsletter has an article relating to the somewhat scandalous final chapter of the Jeannette-McKee saga.



McKee coffee pot



Bottoms-Up tumbler set

## DONATING TO A FOOD BANK

The holiday season is rapidly approaching, and I suppose you might guess that the Museum would like to remind you that we accept donations, particularly in the form of cash. But the article below recently appeared on *facebook*, and it might open some eyes regarding other donations targeted for the holidays.

"I spoke to people getting food at a **food bank** and here are some things I learned from those in need:"

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac and Cheese in the box. They can rarely use it because it needs milk and butter which is hard to get from regular food banks.
2. Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal which they also get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.
4. They cannot eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup unless you put a can opener in too or buy pop tops.
5. Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice a-Roni which they also get a lot of.
6. Spices or salt and pepper would be a real Christmas gift.
7. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care.
8. Sugar and flour are treats.
9. They fawn over fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
10. Seeds are cool in Spring and Summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. They rarely get fresh meat.
12. Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but usually not sandwich bread.
15. Butter or margarine is nice too.
16. Eggs are a real commodity.
17. Cake mix and frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing detergent is very expensive and is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury and women will cry over that.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

## HERITAGE CLUB FAIR



Connie Wheeler / Andy Hoder

On September 30, the Museum participated in the Redlands Area Historical Society's First Annual Heritage Club Fair in Redlands. Representing the Museum were Connie Wheeler, Andy Hoder and Jacque Rocha. At the Museum table they presented a number of pieces each of EAPG, Mid Century, Elegant and Depression Glass. There were also several different colors of

goblets from a recent donation, plus three pieces of Vaseline glass. Participants enjoyed using a black light and seeing which pieces of glass glow, indicating the presence of Uranium Oxide as a coloring agent (Note: other coloring compounds can also produce a glow under black light, but Vaseline glass really lights up).

The Museum sponsored a raffle, in which we raffled off a Fenton milk glass hat, two EAPG goblets and a beautiful cut glass bowl donated by Connie Wheeler. The winners loved the pieces that they won.

Many of the participants picked up our pamphlets and indicated that they planned to visit the Museum soon.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Board Members

**President:** Michael Krumme

**Vice President:** (open)

**Secretary:** Michael Krumme

**Treasurer:** Marco Valderrama (\*)

**Board Member:** David Adams

**Board Member:** Andy Hoder

**Board Member:** Doreen Ward

**Board Member:** Barbara Jenks

**Board Member:** Kathi Jablonsky

**Board Member:** Monica Barragan

**Board Member:** William Brakemeyer

### Docents

Monica Barragan

Bob Crha

Jacque Rocha

Connie Wheeler

Barbara Jenks

Koral Ahmet

Renee Barrette

Kathi Jablonsky

(\*) Paid Consultant performing some duties of Treasurer

## RESEARCH IS FUN

by David Adams

Glass collectors come in all sorts of flavors. Some focus in on a single manufacturer's wares, such as Cambridge, Fenton, Heisey, etc. Others concentrate their collection on a specific product line (e.g. American, Della Robbia) or on a decoration like Rose Point, Orchid, Cherry Blossom, or Florentine. Then there are those that specialize in cream & sugars or vases or pitchers. We had one customer years ago who specialized in punch bowls (must have had lots of space).

Then there are those of us who just love glass, and tend to have multiple collections of different shapes, colors, patterns and from many different manufacturers. My wife has a collection of single goblets from all different American manufacturers. Last count, I think there were 26 different companies represented in that collection.

I have a collection of Rockwell silver overlay pieces with a pattern of flying geese. There are at least five different glass manufacturers that I have positively identified as having made the glass.

We also collect vases of various sizes, shapes, colors and manufacturers. A couple of vases is what inspired this article. We have long owned this beautiful black 10 in. Cambridge bud vase with the daffodil enamel and gold trim decoration. There is a section which has an iridized finish as well. It's a stunning piece. (at right).



I recently came upon an auction for a similar bud vase, with an enameled butterfly decoration with gold highlights. I looked at the picture and thought that this might be another Cambridge bud vase because the shape was similar and there was a gold band on the rim and the base, similar to mine. I was fortunate enough to win the bid, and when the vase arrived, I immediately put it next to the known Cambridge vase.

Oops. They looked very similar, but clearly the new one had a slightly different shape (only slightly, but enough to notice).

If you looked at them separately, you might think they were from the same company (as I did), but side-by-side, you can clearly see they're different.

OK, let's head for the books. When you do research, the first step is to GUESS which company may have been the manufacturer. Mind you, there were, at one time, over 100 companies making or decorating glass just in

the state of West Virginia alone. America had LOTS of glass companies, many of which left no documentation that we can use for identification.

We first guessed Tiffin. Then we guessed Morgantown. The third guess was successful, as we found the exact vase, with the butterfly and gold, in the Central Glass Company book.

Mystery solved. Didn't even get to the books on Heisey, Fostoria, Fenton or L.E. Smith, etc. The final kicker is that my new bud vase from Central came with a sidekick. The last photo shows an 8 inch companion bud vase, also by Central.



I hope you enjoy researching the pieces in your collection as much as we do with ours. It's fun, and often comes with surprises as well.

## 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. To schedule a group tour, visit our web site and use the "Contact Us" page to send us a request, and someone will be in touch. The phone number for the Museum is only answered on weekends when we are open.

We had a visit from the Inland Empire Photo Club in September, and they shared some of the photos that they took with us. Two are shown on page 1.

We are limited in our staff for tours, but you can still contact us and we will try to schedule you. Perhaps you might volunteer as tour coordinator? It doesn't take a lot of time to receive requests and then schedule a time and one or two docents to receive the visitors. You wouldn't necessarily have to attend the visit, just coordinate. Would you think about volunteering?

## 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 current balance in the fund is: **\$6,383.27**  
Donations are gratefully accepted.

The building does require periodic maintenance and the Restoration Fund is still an active need. 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

## NOVEMBER 2025 FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Members,

I hope you will take a moment to read the tribute to Board Member Jan Korfmacher in this newsletter. Jan was involved in the Museum for years, as well as in many, many other Redlands-based organizations. She will be missed by all who knew her.

I regret to announce that Board Member Kathi Jablonsky will be leaving the board at year end, due to health issues in her family, and because she will be relocating and living farther from the Museum. She started volunteering about three years ago, and has served on our Board for two years. Kathi took on many projects and responsibilities, most notably spearheading the Museum inventory project, but also doing publicity on Facebook, managing in-kind glass donations, serving as a docent, and more. We will miss you and all your hard work, Kathi, but we are stronger for all you did, and we wish you well.

The holidays and a new year are around the corner. When you are thinking about gifts, don't forget that our Gift Shop is full of wonderful antique and collectible glass items that would make great gifts, or be beautiful to use to decorate your home or to use on your holiday dinner table. And we're offering 30% off from now until the end of the year, so "come on down."

Speaking of giving gifts, would you gift us with some of your time by helping out on Cleaning Day, serving once a month as a docent, or serving on our Board of Directors? Many hands make light work, and we can always use more "hands."

*Michael*

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### New Members:

Diane Stacey  
Mary Shedenhelm  
Michelle Crawford  
Christine Perris

WELCOME ALL !!!

## ADS FROM THE PAST

It is always interesting to see advertisements from the past. Maybe you will recognize some of the patterns or pieces from your own collection.



### 45-Pc. Dinner Sets—In Colors

"ADAMS" Design—Pressed glass, brilliant finish, floral and medallion pattern. 1 set in carton, 30 lbs.

- |                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6 cups                  | 1 sugar bowl (2 pcs.)               |
| 6 saucers               | 1 salt shaker                       |
| 6 bread & butter plates | 1 pepper shaker                     |
| 6 dinner plates         | 1 vegetable dish, 9 1/2 in.         |
| 6 dessert dishes        | 1 platter, 11 3/4 in.               |
| 6 footed tumblers       | 1 covered casserole, 9 in. (2 pcs.) |
| 1 cream pitcher         |                                     |

50R-4680—Rose ..... } Set  
50R-4681—Green ..... } 2.75

### Jeanette Glass "Adam" pattern How about that price for the set ?



### De Vilbiss Atomizers and Perfume Droppers In a Sale

These De Vilbiss Atomizers are known everywhere for their great efficiency. The ones in this sale are equally noteworthy for their beauty. Here are tall, graceful forms of opalescent glass, others in iridescent effect that seem like imprisoned sunlight... others like moonlit frost and milky white ones like summer clouds. Some hand etched, others gold encrusted.

Each One Is Perfect—Each One Is Guaranteed

Droppers			Atomizers		
A. & S. Reg. Price	Sale Price	Savings	A. & S. Reg. Price	Sale Price	Savings
2.49	1.49	1.00	3.98	2.69	1.29
3.98	2.69	1.29	4.98	3.49	1.49
5.98	4.25	1.73			

A. & S.—Street Floor, East Building.

1926 DeVilbiss Advertisement  
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

## FRY'S OPAL OVEN GLASS FOR BAKING AND SERVING A Dish For Every Oven Use



Article No. 1064  
1 1/2 Quart Round Casserole  
100 Certificates



Article No. 1111  
9-in. Round Cake Dish  
45 Certificates



Article No. 1112  
9-in. Square Cake Dish  
60 Certificates



Article No. 1065  
1 1/2 Quart Oval Casserole  
100 Certificates



Article No. 1068  
Pie, Bread Baker  
50 Certificates



Article No. 1113  
6-oz. Custard Cups  
Set of 6  
90 Certificates



Article No. 1067  
10-in. Pie Plate  
50 Certificates



Article No. 1066  
9-in. Round Baking Dish  
70 Certificates

MANUFACTURED BY  
H.C. FRY GLASS Co.  
ROCHESTER PA.

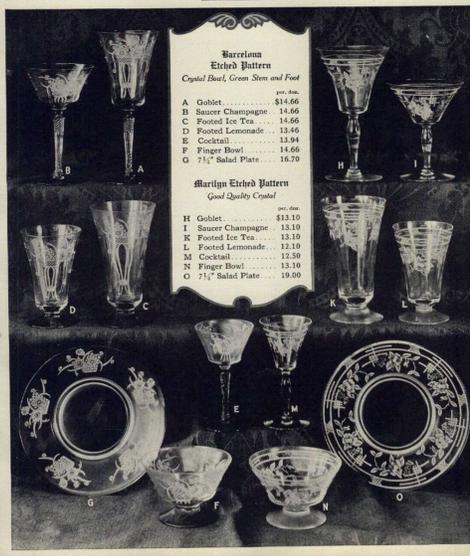
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1925 Fry Advertisement

## Old Morgantown Glass

Barrelona Etched Pattern  
Crystal Bowl, Green Stem and Foot

Martign Etched Pattern  
Good Quality Crystal



1930 Old Morgantown Advertisement

Members: Do you like to see the old advertisements?  
Did you like any specific article?  
Let us know – send an email to:  
HistoricalGlassMuseum4@gmail.com