



PORTLAND'S *Rain* OF GLASS, INC.

A non-profit organization formed to stimulate interest in collectible glass and to provide educational resources and events for the members and the community at large.

MAY

WHERE: Friendship Masonic Center
5626 NE Alameda Street
Portland, Oregon 97213
N.E. 57th & Sandy

WHEN: Tuesday, May 17, 2011,
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
(Library open at 6:00 p.m.)

GREETERS: Jeff and MaryAnn Specht
(Come early to set up—6:00 p.m.)

SPEAKER: **MAVIS CASE ON MOUNT ST. HELENS' WARE**

Do you remember when Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980? Mavis Case does. She will bring her collection of memorabilia from that event—pottery, books, coins, etc.—to PROG in May. She invites members to bring their own Mount St. Helens collectibles and join in the discussion. At top is a pottery owl made from St. Helens' ash. Just above is a St. Helens' "ash" tray.

PATTERN OF THE MONTH: Universal Pottery's "Woodvine" pattern, Presented by Sandra and Ed Martin

Pictured below are a pitcher and a plate in the "Woodvine" pattern.



HOSPITALITY: May Committee listed on page 2

BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, May 10, 2011,
at the Friendship Masonic Center, 7:00 p.m.
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

1 – Polk Flea Market, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall

7-8 – Hillsboro Vintage Sale, Washington Co. Fairplex

15 – Salem Collectors Market

15 – Picc-A-Dilly, Eugene

22 – Medford Giant Flea Market, Medford Armory

26-28 – Portland's Rain of Glass Convention, Grotto Conference Center, 8840 NE Skidmore St.

JUNE

5 – Polk Flea Market, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall

5 – Picc-A-Dilly Flea Market, Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene

25 -- Sweet Pea Marketplace, Long Tom Grange, 25855 Ferguson Rd, Junction City

26 – Medford Giant Flea Market, Medford Armory

Visit the Portland's Rain of Glass Website for more interesting Club news:

www.rainofglass.com

Mailing Address:

Portland's Rain of Glass
C/O Friendship Masonic Center, 5626 N.E. Alameda Street, Portland, OR, 97213

❖INSIDE❖

Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.

- ◆Calendar of Events
- ◆Membership Information
- ◆Vernon Kilns "Blossomtime"
- ◆Chocolate and Ice Cream Molds
- ◆2011 Convention - May 26, 27, 28

HOSPITALITY

Members who have signed up to bring food for May's general meeting on the 17th includes Deanna Stevenson - Veggy Tray, Edna Mc Lean, - Fruit Tray and Jan Baxter to be determined.

Barbara Dietz (503-869-4269) and Barbara Larson (503-636-3918) are filling in for Mariam Morehead. If you'd like to add another dish, please get in touch with them or just show up with something wonderful to eat!

Thank you!

Portland's Rain of Glass, Inc.

publishes 11 newsletters a year.

If you would like to contribute an article, contact:

Barbara Coleman at 503-281-1823,
colelee@easystreet.net

AND Jewell Gowan at 503-510-9137,
jewellsbks@aol.com

AND Cindy Thomas at 503-481-5401,
cst@wbcable.net

Due to the convention and holiday weekend, news articles and photos need to be received by May 20th to be included in the June newsletter. THANK YOU!

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to Welcome our Newest Members,
Edna McLean
Deanna Stevenson
Jean Zitzer!

A BIG Thank you to our Members who Renewed:

Jan Baxter
Barbara Dietz
Dana Keyes
Marty Linschoten
Ed Martin
Venita Owen-McClain
Sharon Staley
Colleen Wilcox

Beverly Close
Sandra James
Gerard Linschoten
Mona Marsh
Sandra Martin
Virginia Rankin
Anita Sutton

Want more money for the PROG Convention Auctions?

For every person you sponsor who joins PROG, you get \$5 in Glass Bucks. No Limit!

~~ Joi Shervey, Membership Chair
503.661.6777 joisfun@comcast.net



A Mexican glass factory and examples of Mexican glass

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Dear Members,

At this time our main focus is on our 19th Annual Glass Collector's Convention that will be held at the Grotto at 8840 N.E. Skidmore, near 85th and Sandy Blvd, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 26th, 27th and 28th. I hope you have gotten your registration mailed or handed to the Registration Chairman, Donna Miller. If not, we have extended the discount time to Tuesday, May 17th, which is the night of our next regular meeting. Over fifty people are signed up to attend and we expect more to sign up during this last month before the Convention. Mark Moore and his committee have planned an especially great weekend of glass education, as well as great entertainment and superb food. The speaker list includes Kirk Nelson who will be giving two presentations, one on the Boston & Sandwich Glass Company and the other on Pairpoint and Mt. Washington Glass Company. Also speaking are Eason Eige on Mexican Glass, Verna Kocken on Czechoslovakian Glass Perfume Bottles, Marcia Brown on Signed Beauties of Costume Jewelry and Bea Martin on Boxed Sets of Depression and Elegant Glassware Children's Dishes. Carole White and Neal Skibinski are busy recording the donated auction items as they come in for the fund-raising part of the event. So, if you have not registered, there is still time. It is a worthwhile event that the club provides.

Both continuing and new projects are in the works. As Development Director, Ed Martin continues to work with his committee toward developing a virtual museum. Ed is also guiding Trish Reading and Sandra James toward setting up a Club Sale Booth at the Hollywood Antique Mall. This has been mentioned at previous meetings and it is planned to publish the guidelines in the next Newsletter.

The Membership Committee guidelines are going through a 'major overhaul' by Membership Director Joi Shervey. If you attended the last meeting you noticed the great new boards that she and her husband Paul made to hold our meeting name tags. There is also going to be a shift to having all dues come due in June. She will be explaining this soon along with the proposal to raise the dues and to change the types of membership available. Ed Martin is also spearheading this change and will have the proposal published in the next Newsletter.

It is time to elect four members for three year terms to serve on the PROG Board. Nominating Committee Chairman, Suzanne Pastori and her Committee Members Susan Conroy and Jan Baxter will be calling members to see who is willing to run for these positions. This a good opportunity to work with other club members to decide the direction our club is taking. We meet at least 8 meetings a year (usually 11 times) at the Friendship Center. Four people will be elected and any other nominees will act as alternates and are encouraged to attend the meetings, but with no voting responsibilities. Any vacancies during the year are filled from the alternates.

Thank you for supporting all of these projects. I want each of you to know how much you are appreciated as a member of Portland's Rain of Glass. Each person brings something important to the group and that melds into a great club of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,

Jewell Gowan, President

Portland's Rain of Glass

National Depression Glass Association, Inc.
37th Annual Convention
Glass Show & Sale

 **Saturday**
July 9, 2011

 **Sunday**
July 10, 2011
10am - 4pm

Live Oak Civic Center
8101 Pat Booker Road
★ **Live Oak (San Antonio), Texas** ★
I-35 Exit 172 to TX 218 Pat Booker Rd

★ **Special Guest David King** ★
Master Glass Engraver

Admission: \$8
(Good Both Days)

32 National Dealers

Educational Seminars

Door Prizes

Educational Displays



Show Chair: Michael Morris 888-705-6380
Information: mike@3mdc.com www.NDGA.net

BLOSSOM TIME by VERNON KILNS

By Barbara Coleman



photo by Neal Skibinski

Blossom Time by Vernon Kilns was one of my Grandmother Cora Coleman's dinnerware patterns. At right are pictures of her showing it off in her china closets in the 1960s. When I inherited her things from my aunt, only the large teapot and one large platter were left. I have collected the rest of my set from local dealers and eBay.

The Poxon Pottery and China Co. operated in Vernon CA from 1912 until 1931, when it was sold to Faye G. Bennison. Bennison renamed the company Vernon Kilns, and it was in business until 1958.

Vernon Kilns continued to produce Poxon's lines until a 1933 earthquake forced Bennison to develop new shapes and patterns. By 1940 the company was well established in two lines of production—specialty ware and dinnerware.

The company flourished during World War II when imports were not available. After the War, the company was not able to compete with foreign imports and changing tastes, and in 1958. Vernon Kilns was sold to Metlox. Metlox continued to market some of Vernon's shapes and patterns as Vernonware until 1989.

Blossom Time is a dinnerware transfer pattern in deep blue on ivory made for just one year in 1942. All pieces are marked the same:

<p>Under Glaze Vernon Kilns Calif. Made in U.S.A. Blossom Time</p>

photo by Neal Skibinski



Cosmos, a transfer pattern in a red and ivory print of the same design as Blossom Time, was also made for just one year in 1942.

Both patterns were made on the "Melinda" shape, which was introduced in the early 1940's. The patterns on Melinda were particularly popular and filled the demand for similar English wares that were unavailable during World War II. Vernon also used the Melinda shape for Yosemite National Park dishes and collector plates featuring different states and local attractions.

Melinda ware has an embossed leaf motif with sort of a "rope" look on the rims. The bases of bowls, pitchers and pots have the same embossed leaf design. Handles are leaf-shaped, and finials are flower-like. Some serving pieces are leaf-shaped.

The Blossom Time coffee pot (8-cup) would be about \$75, a cup and saucer about \$20 and the two-part leaf-shape dish about \$45. The large 16" platter would be about \$85, and the 14" platter about \$50.

Reference books include *Versatile Vernon Kilns*, *Versatile Vernon Kilns Book II* and *Collectible Vernon Kilns* all authored by Maxine Nelson.

Edited by Carole Bess White

photo by Neal Skibinski



CHOCOLATE and ICE CREAM MOULDS with ANITA SUTTON

photo by Neal Skibinski



As with so many of us collectors, Anita bought just one chocolate mould for a specific spot in her kitchen and planned to stop with that. Did she? Of course not!!

Although there were thousands of different figures made, Anita likes holiday figures and has concentrated on them.

Prior to the 19th Century, chocolate was only consumed in liquid form. Over the years, chemists and chocolatiers tested and refined their recipes until chocolate finally could be moulded in a solid form. In France, Maison Létang Fils advertised chocolate moulds for sale in 1845.

Frederick Anton Reiche started with Létang but felt he could do better, so he moved to Dresden and started his own company. His moulds have a lot of detail. He also made “cultural” moulds including walking Santas and the Statue of Liberty for the American market, and fish and pigs for France’s holidays, as well as zeppelins, and chimney sweeps with top hats. By 1933 his factory had more than 50,000 moulds and took up four city blocks. In 1880, the Eppelsheimer brothers started manufacturing moulds in New York City.

There are four basic types of metal chocolate moulds—

- The double mould, which has two sides with an open bottom and two sides with a closed bottom.
- The folding mould, which is hinged on one side, clamped on the other, fits into a rack and is used for making hollow figures.
- The caged mould, which fits into a machine like a Ferris wheel and is spun so the chocolate coats the interior of the mould.
- The tray or flat mould, which often had the figures soldered on.

Judene Divone’s book “Chocolate Moulds, A History and Encyclopedia” explains how to find the manufacturer’s name on moulds, but often it is the distributor’s name that appears instead. Look for the numbers on both halves of a mould. If they

are not the same, it means that the mould is a “marriage.” “Married” moulds are not as desirable or expensive as those with original sides. Often the clips that held moulds together are missing.

Materials used in moulds include:

- 1830’s—1910-20’s - Silver with a copper wash
- 1920’s - Tin over steel
- Post-WWII - Nickel plate over steel
- 1960’s—1970’s - Plastic

Vormensabriek is the only company still in business today, and they make plastic moulds.

Gearing up for WWII, Germany took metal moulds to be melted for the war effort. In the 1960’s and ‘70’s, before people began collecting them, metals again were melted as plastics began replacing them. All of this contributes to the collectibility of metal moulds.

Moulds may be found in antique stores, antique shows and on the Internet. Prices range from less than \$100 to more than \$1,000 for rare and difficult to find moulds, so it pays to study before making a purchase. If you see a mould on eBay and the price is very low, you should assume it’s a repro made in China. Chinese moulds are made from stainless steel, which are shiny and not expensive—usually less than \$45. We hope the seller will be honest and say is a reproduction.

If you see one that is priced sky-high, don’t bite because prices are a bit flattened right now, and a dealer may assume that just because it’s a metal chocolate mould it should be expensive when it really shouldn’t. A reliable source for vintage original moulds is Dad’s Follies (<http://dadsfollies.com/>).

Pewter ice cream moulds are also very collectible. They are generally plain on the outside with fine detail on the inside. They usually cost less than chocolate moulds.

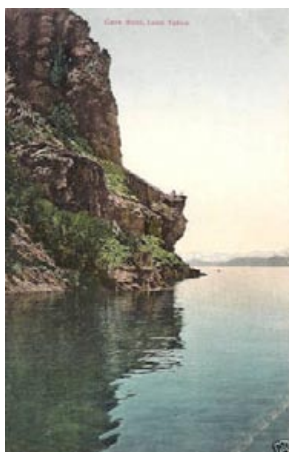
Moulds need care and attention to survive. The debate is over whether or not to use scouring pads on rust spots. Anita favors just washing them, drying them thoroughly and brushing them with mineral oil every six months.

Bernard Callebaut Chocolates of Lake Oswego (<http://www.bernardcchocolates.com>) offers a selection of hand-moulded chocolates.

Written by Carole Bess White

THERE'S STILL TIME TO DONATE TO THE AUCTIONS!!

Thanks to our members and friends for the great items we've already received, including:



A 7-DAY STAY IN LAKE TAHOE!!



AND MANY NICE COLLECTIBLES!!

but we still have a ways to go!!

DONATIONS OF DESIRABLE, CLEAN, UNDAMAGED, VINTAGE GLASS-CHINA-POTTERY AND OTHER ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES OR GOODS & SERVICES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Can't find a nice piece to donate? Be creative!! Think about offering:

A golf outing

Theatre tickets

Dinner at your home—or the winner's home

A "dessert of the month"

A few hours of sewing or another service

Jam, jelly or other homemade treats

OR THE EASIEST OF ALL—A CASH DONATION!!

PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO THE MAY MEETING, OR CONTACT
CAROLE WHITE 503-901-0505 TO ARRANGE PICK UP

The auctions will be held in conjunction with the 2011 Glass Collectors Convention:
Silent Auction Thursday, May 26 ♦ Oral auction Friday, May 27

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Auction Document Preparation, 5 P.M. Tuesday, May 17 (before club) at the Friendship Center
Auction Setup, 11:30 A.M. Thursday, May 26, at the Grotto

PLEASE LET CAROLE WHITE KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP—cbessw@aol.com---503-901-0505

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED!!!

19th ANNUAL GLASS COLLECTORS CONVENTION

THURSDAY--FRIDAY--SATURDAY, MAY 26--27--28, 2011

GROTTO CONFERENCE CENTER, 8840 NE SKIDMORE, PORTLAND OR ♦ ENTER at NE 85th & SANDY BLVD

FEATURING NOTED AUTHORS AND EXPERTS SPEAKING ON:

				
MARCIA BROWN <i>Signed Beauties of Costume Jewelry</i>	EASON EIGE <i>Mexican Glass</i>	VERNA KOCKEN <i>Czech Glass Perfume Bottles</i>	BEA MARTIN <i>Boxed Sets of Children's Dishes</i>	KIRK NELSON <i>Pairpoint, Mt. Washington, Boston & Sandwich Glass</i>

**PLUS ACTIVITIES INCLUDING 2 BIG AUCTIONS WITH LOTS INCLUDING
7-DAY STAY IN LAKE TAHOE—GLASS—ANTIQUES—COLLECTIBLES—& MORE**
SILENT AUCTION MAY 26 ♦ VIEW 5 PM ♦ FIRST CLOSE 7 PM | ORAL AUCTION MAY 27 ♦ VIEW 5:30 PM ♦ BIDDING 6:30 PM
NO BUYER'S PREMIUM!! OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!

FULL THREE-DAY REGISTRATION

Full registration includes Silent Auction, Hors d'Oeuvres Party & Ice Cream Social with Live Music on Thursday; All Friday and Saturday Meals, Seminars, Activities, Oral Auction on Friday and Glass Favor: _____ persons @ \$150.00 each \$ _____

EARLY DISCOUNT DEADLINE EXTENDED! Pay for three-day Convention by May 17 - \$10.00 each - \$ _____

PROG member discount on three-day Convention registration: - \$10.00 each - \$ _____

Total for three-day registration to be paid by May 19, 2011: \$ _____

SPECIAL TWO-DAY REGISTRATION

Thursday & Friday registration includes Silent Auction, Hors d'Oeuvres Party & Ice Cream Social with Live Music on Thursday; all Friday Meals, Seminars, Activities and Oral Auction on Friday (**no Saturday meals or seminars**): _____ persons @ \$80.00 each \$ _____

Special Thursday & Saturday registration includes Silent Auction, Hors d'Oeuvres Party & Ice Cream Social with Live Music on Thursday; Oral Auction on Friday (**no Friday meals or seminars**); all Saturday Meals, Seminars, Activities and Glass Favor: _____ persons @ \$90.00 each \$ _____

EARLY DISCOUNT DEADLINE EXTENDED! Pay for two-day Convention by May 17 - \$5.00 each - \$ _____

PROG member discount on special registration: - \$5.00 each - \$ _____

Total for two-day registration to be paid by May 19, 2011: \$ _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FOOD RESTRICTIONS _____

CHECK FOR \$ _____ ENCLOSED, OR PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD: VISA MASTERCARD



CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

3-DIGIT CODE FROM BACK OF CARD

\$ _____

ZIP CODE WHERE YOU RECEIVE STATEMENT FOR CARD

AMOUNT TO BE CHARGED

SIGNATURE

Mail to: PORTLAND'S RAIN OF GLASS c/o Donna Miller, P.O. BOX 449, McMinnville OR 97128

Reserve discounted hotel rooms directly with Pony Soldier Hotel, 9901 N.E. Sandy Blvd, Portland OR 97220, 1-800-780-7234

INFORMATION: MARK MOORE
mark@pdxhistory.com 503.286.5224 www.rainofglass.org