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Innocence Abroad: A First Timer's Leap across the "Big Pond" and How to File for Bankruptcy while Overseas

by Stanley B. Kruger

The first thing you must remember is that London is five hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time and Paris is six hours ahead. That is, at midnight here it is already 5 AM in London and 6 AM in Paris. So, when Toby and I took off for London at 8:10 PM, Sunday, 24 November 2002 (the European date form) on US Air Flight 126, it was already 1:10 AM at our destination, Gatwick Airport, London. When we landed there at 8 AM GMT (Greenwich Mean Time), it was only 3 AM by our body clocks. This difference produces the famous "jet lag" which limited our activities on Monday, 25 November to one 3.5 hour visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum (WONDERFUL! and not at all stodgy or out-of-date) and which we are still experiencing in reverse as I am setting down these words, due to the return flight on 11 December. So, dear readers, you must overlook any incoherence you note in this account of our travels.

By the time we, Toby and I and Beverly and Martin Schindler, boarded the 4 PM 27 November railway (train) at Euston Station, London for Nuneaton, the home of Bob Hall, Chairman (President) of the Cambridge Paperweight Circle (CPC), in addition to the V & A, she and I had visited Kensington Palace, the erstwhile Hyde Park home of Lady Diana Spencer after her divorce from Prince Charles, spent eight hours Tuesday, 11/26 on The Big Bus Company tour bus (three color coded routes, red – to the eastern end of central London, green – the north/south central portion, green – the western portion surrounding Hyde Park near our Best Western Paddington Court Hotel and Suites), had dinner Monday at an Italian restaurant and Tuesday, at an Aberdeen Steak House on Craven Hill Road, lunched Wednesday at Giraffe, a funky place offering "Global Food – World Music" at 7 Kensington High Street near the Palace, learned a bit about the



Roy Brown's Collection of Canes and Lampwork

Underground, using mostly the District and Circle lines, and lost my best pair of black leather Christian Dior gloves at the Kensington High Street Underground station on our way back to the hotel. We were off now to the Nuneaton Travelodge in order to attend, on Thursday, 11/28 (Thanksgiving Day absent turkey!) the opening day of the 600 booth antique show at the National Exhibit Centre (NEC), in Birmingham, the Featured Exhibit of which would be the fabulous thousand weight display by Bob Hall, Roy Brown, Terry Johnson, Anne Anderson and other CPC members,

assisted by a few knowledgeable Americans, Colin and Debbie Mahoney (Paul Ysart experts) and William Drew Gaskill (THE expert on English green dump weights). The NEC has 20 giant halls, each the equivalent of the Philadelphia Convention Center although not nearly as plush and the antique show would run four days, 28



Beverly and Marty Schindler on the train to Nuneaton, 11/27/02

November through 1 December, though we would attend only opening day.

At Nuneaton, we were found, in a bit of rain, by Bob and Roy, waiting to take us to our motel and then to Bob's home, where a large group was congregating. Once there we were greeted warmly by Eileen Hall, Pam Brown, Anne Anderson, the Mahoneys, the Schultheisses, Bill Gaskill and the other CPC'ers, had a spot of tea and awaited our departure in a caravan of at least five cars. Bob had arranged for 20 of us to dine at the Glebeland Chef's College, starting at 6:30 PM, so that we could all become better acquainted and luxuriate in the excellent student chef offerings, many cuts above typical English restaurant food.

After the three-hour, five course dinner, we were chauffeured back to Bob's lovely home for a nightcap and thence to our Travelodge, only a mile or so from Bob's place. The next morning, Bob picked us up at 9:30 and we arrived at the NEC at 10. The "Antiques for Everyone" Fair would open at 11 but the CPC and American docents manning the Featured Exhibit were needed on the floor for last minute arrangements one hour earlier. A large crowd gathered in the hour before the opening while we sat and conversed with Gerd Mattes, an Austrian collector of related objects, previously published in the 2000 PCA Bulletin. Following Bob's advice, we waited until the large eager crowd had flooded into the hall promptly at 11 AM; we then sauntered in, with no line ahead of us, at 11:10.

Once inside, Toby had difficulty tearing me away from the Featured Exhibit. Roy Brown's display case of millefiori canes (pictured in Bob Hall's *Scottish Paperweights*, 1999, Schiffer Publishing, Atglen, PA) was a standout (as is Roy himself!). The ten display cases were labeled: Old English, Whitefriars, French Antiques, Modern French, Ysarts, Scottish, American, Bohemian, Miscellaneous and Related Objects, with further detailed explanations of the contents on each case placard. We circulated around them for about two hours, enjoying the views and trading tales about the weights on display. Bill Gaskill had a computer slide show running continuously, extolling the virtues of membership in the PCA, Inc.; his small table was covered with Bulletins from past years. We all stashed our carry bags underneath this table, as there was no other hiding place within the Featured Exhibit.

At 1:30 PM, CPC'er Ken King, in the Seminar Room at the entrance to the Fair, spoke for 25 minutes on "Paperweights: Antiques of Tomorrow". This was a generalized review of paperweights, concentrating on old and modern English and Scottish makers and products. Toby and I eventually covered every booth but bought no antiques, not even from Peter Metcalfe of Sweetbriar Gallery, the only paperweight stand in the Fair, but Peter later stated that he had had a very good sales day anyway. At 7 PM, we left the Fair and took a train and then a taxi back to our digs, ending the evening with dinner at The Yeoman Harvester, a restaurant on the grounds of the Travelodge. Beverly and Marty Schindler had caught a ride back to London with Ken King, were staying with friends in Northfields



"Giant" John Deacons

near the western end of the Piccadilly Underground line and we would not see them again until Saturday evening. There would be another speaker on each of

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the remaining Fair days: 29 Nov. “English Crown & Bottle-Glass Whimseys, Doorstops, Mantle Ornaments and Paperweights” by Bill Gaskill; 30 Nov. “I Collect Paperweights: How to keep a hobby that has lasted for 25 Years as interesting as the day it started, the answer, diversification and specialization” by Roy Brown; 1 Dec. “Paperweights from the 19th and early 20th Centuries”, “Introducing millefiore, lampwork and sulphides used in glass paperweights and related objects” by Anne Anderson, but our travel schedule prevented us from staying around to hear them.

At 8:30 the next morning, Bob Hall came to chauffeur us to the train station at Derby, about 30 miles due north of Nuneaton, before leaving for the NEC. Being a member of the Royal Crown Derby Collectors Guild, Toby was intent on visiting the factory, and we spent a very enjoyable 3.5 hours there, acquiring six new RCD paperweight figures for her collection. We need not detail our tourist activities over the next 100 hours in London, except to list the sights covered: 29 Nov., dinner at a decent Chinese/Korean restaurant and in for the evening by 7:30 PM; 30 Nov., 8 AM Underground to Portobello Road antiques shops, 12:30 PM, returned to High Street Kensington Underground station and miraculously retrieved my black leather gloves from Lost and Found (a great story), St. Paul’s Cathedral, currently undergoing extensive interior renovation, Richmond Theater for “The Vagina Monologues”; Sunday, 1 Dec., full English breakfast at an Italian restaurant on Brompton Road, while waiting for Harrods to open at noon, at Harrods bought souvenirs, shopping bags, etc., Tower of London, Chinatown and Leicester Square, home by 9:30 PM; 2 Dec., Trafalgar Square, National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery, Richmond Theater for “One Helluva Life” with Tom Conte portraying a soused John Barrymore; 3 Dec., checked out of London digs, walked



Deacons “Button”



Tour group watching Peter McDougal in the gaffer’s chair, 12/5/02

Hyde Park, train back to Nuneaton and the Travelodge, in preparation for pickup at 6:30 AM on 4 Dec. for CPC’s five day, four night Scottish tour.

Terry Johnson, Past Chairman of the CPC, and Eileen Hall came for us the next morning and brought us to the Hall home again. The tour bus arrived there at 7:25 AM and after loading up, we were on our way to Scotland. Bill, the driver, informed us that south of Watford, his vehicle was called a “coach”; north of Watford, it became a bus. Forty-four of us were making the trip, including six Americans, the Krugers, the Schindlers and the Mahoneys. Our lunch stop was in Carlisle, 12:10 PM, at the historic Old Blacksmith Shop, a center for shotgun weddings in the past. We left 65 minutes later and arrived at our lodgings in

Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland at 4:10 PM. The Crieff Hydro Hotel dates from 1880 and is built wide of red stone like a veritable castle, with a newer addition spread across the rear. It is owned and managed by the Leckie family, affiliated with the Best Western chain and reminiscent of great American resort hotels like the Greenbriar in West Virginia. We were assigned Room #177, on the second floor (they call it the first floor) front, looking out over greenery. At the 6:30 PM Cash Bar, we became acquainted with June and Ian Barrie; he has a collection of 800 picture transfer weights, of mostly English sites and scenes, while June is more eclectic in her tastes. After the gourmet three-

course dinner, in a room set aside for our group of about 60 (we had been joined by a number who had driven in on their own), Bob Hall offered remarks welcoming us to Scotland. Colin Mahoney then spoke for ten minutes about how he and Debbie had become paperweight collectors originally and handed out a chart entitled THE YSART CONNECTIONS. Colin is writing the definitive book on the Ysart family. After this long day, Toby and I retired at 9:45 PM and were soon asleep.

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PAPERWEIGHT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

REVIEW OF EVENTS: October 26, 2002

Delaware Valley's Fall Meeting of 2002 began at 10 AM on Saturday, October 26 at Williamson Restaurant, Horsham, PA. Members were treated to Danish, coffee and tea while studying the many informative and interesting displays: newsletters from other local paperweight collectors associations, works by members and weights for sale by members, free for the taking brochures and antiques newspapers, and Ethel Henry's special exhibit illustrating her talk, separated into groups such as pansies, best buys, royals, favorites, jewelry, weights she made and other special weights. Members also gathered around the Reids' weight display and Guest Dealer Roger Jacobsen's display of weights and reference books. Roger was assisted by Ben Drabeck who took orders for his new book, Magic in the Glass: The Paperweight Artistry of Charles Kaziun, for delivery later in the year.

At 11 AM, President Kruger called the meeting to order, recognizing members from afar: John Hawley from Florida, Patty Mowatt from North Carolina, Roger and Ben from Massachusetts, Bonnie and Gary Geiger from western PA, Bill and Ilse Payne from southern Delaware, and Beverly and Marty Schindler from Virginia. Forty-four members had registered, all on time for only the second time in the group's recent history. Ethel Henry began the Morning Program,

Honoring Pioneers, speaking on her 50 years of collecting weights. Her first was bought in 1949 and she is now 84. She doesn't lie about her age, only her children's! Ethel has sold more weights than she owns and is continually upgrading the collection from the pieces given her by family members. (Knowing groans from the audience here!) At one point she felt guilty about her collecting passion but a minister told her it was OK because it was all to the glory of God! Once she went to a PCA Convention with a broken foot and drew the original PCA logo on the cast! She has organized the collections of those in her life care community. Early on she met Paul Jokelson and Paul Hollister and listened to their disagreements over the years. Jokelson



Ken and Anne Brown, Clarence Brunner looking over Ethel Henry's varied paperweight exhibit

very much disliked Chinese and Murano copies of French antiques. In 1953, she married Jim Henry, a Dupont employee, and the company sent them to Europe for a year. While there they decided to

collect paperweights. When Jim passed away she embedded an inexpensive Chinese rose weight in his headstone. Her advice? Be sure it is well glued. Frost heaved it out during the first winter; it popped out again after re-gluing; finally, a special epoxy has it in place for the past five years. In 1953, in Europe, Ethel bought the Baccarat coronation sulphide weight of Elizabeth II. She has acquired other "royal" weights over the years and published an article about them in the 1985/1986 PCA Bulletin.

While in Europe with Jim, Ethel found and read Evangeline Bergstrom's 1940 volume, Old Glass Paperweights, almost the first book written in

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After many years in the paperweight world, I am now liquidating my personal collection of weights. Anyone interested in viewing them for possible purchase may contact me in Lambertville, NJ at (609) 397-1177

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the modern era about this subject. [Ed. Note: The first was actually American Glass Paperweights, with black and white plates, published in 1939 by Francis Edgar Smith, a rare book today.] When the Henrys returned from their year in Europe, they started a family. Once the children were through college, Ethel discovered the Arthur Gorham Paperweight Shop at Wheaton Village. The late Warren Abrams was manager there and helped her find good buys. Later, she went on Corning's 1982 paperweight tour of Europe, searched Portobello Road and Belgium and found excellent buys for \$2 and \$9. Ethel pointed out her display weights and seminal articles on glass. Her own favorite weight is an orchid piece. She noted on the 1982 tour that she and Jim had made their own weights at the Perthshire factory, with help, of course; hers broke in the annealing



Rosemary Kozak, Boyd England

process and the factory remade it and sent it to her in New Jersey. She cautioned that her "Best Buys" were NOT for sale! She acquired the last Perthshire weight made, commissioned by Larry Selman and then concluded, noting that she is still looking for skier weights.

At 11:35, pioneers Kay and Sumner Reid showed slides and narrated "The 1982 Paperweight Tour of Europe". Sumner handled the slides while Kay narrated. This tour was the first organized by Evan and Dee Pancake, while Evan was President of the PCA [1981-1985]. It began with a cocktail party in New York City; then the group flew to London and on to Scotland where they stayed at the Caledonia Hotel overlooking the Firth of Forth. The first night there they had a Scottish dinner with Scottish entertainment. Next they toured Georgian homes and gardens and examined

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weights at the Edinburgh Museum of Art. Prince William was born while they were in Scotland and the group toasted him at dinner. They visited the Perthshire factory in Crieff and watched demonstrations by the gaffers, including making canes. They were shown a pile of damaged and imperfect weights over which was poured hot glass at the end of every day. They visited the Castle of the Stone of Scone, it having been returned from Westminster Abbey. Back in London, at a cocktail party, the weights they had made at the Perthshire factory were delivered to them. The group attended an auction at Christie's but the Reids were too new to paperweight collecting to bid. At the British Museum, they toured the glass collection, and viewed the Portland Vase. It had been broken once and re-glued three times, because of better glues and because they found 12 more pieces! The group also visited the glass collection at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. In Paris the group stayed at a hotel near the Louvre and the Paris Opera House. They attended a cocktail party at the home of famed collector Maurice Lindon (1905-1986), a contemporary and constant competitor of Arthur Rubloff (1903-1986), and saw his collection of antique weights and his fabulous glass chandelier. They visited the Legion d'Honneur Museum to see goblets with paperweight bases. At the Conservatoire National des Arts et Metiers, they viewed a Pantin snake and other glasswork. They saw the Baccarat and Saint Louis showrooms, then traveled to Nancy and the Baccarat factory there, watching as a sulphide weight was made. The next day they visited the Saint Louis factory. Both factories had workers' quarters with a nearby church, all very open and clean. The church bell was rung to call workers to their shifts. The group then returned to Paris for a tour of the city and a cruise on the Seine, a lovely end to a memorable trip.

At 1:10 PM, after lunch, the meeting was called to order for announcements:

1. Our 10th Anniversary Commemorative Weight is in Selman's Fall auction, estimated

at \$750-1200. President Kruger predicted that it would go over \$1000 and said that those members who bought one made a good investment. [Ed. Note: Final price, with 10% buyer's premium, \$1320.]

2. A newsletter from the Ontario, Canada paperweight group mentioned that the Montreal group's President, Pierre-Michel Grenier, had died recently at age 52.
3. From November 8-30, Leo Kaplan, Ltd. will be showing new work by Paul Stankard, Gordon Smith, Jim D'Onofrio, Debbie



Bonnie Geiger, Diane Atkerson

Tarsitano and the Trabuccos. President Stan volunteered to drive a group into NYC on Saturday, November 9 for the grand opening. [Ed. Note: Three went, the Krugers and Florence Kvalnes.]

4. Our group's website, dvpaperweights.org, has brought in two new members. This pays for ½ of the yearly maintenance cost for the site.
5. The new Salma Hayek starring "Frida" movie will open on November 1. The original Spanish film of this name was made in 1984. We have a Frida Kahlo murrina in our 10th Anniversary Commemorative weight.
6. Diane Atkerson recently visited the Degenhart Museum in Cambridge, Ohio and showed a poster of pictures she had taken there. The

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THE PRESIDENT'S SCRAMBLE:

ANOTHER GREAT LOSS... On the morning of Sunday, November 24, 2002, the founder of Paperweight Collectors Association, Inc., Paul Jokelson, passed away at the age of 95, just six months shy of the PCA's 50th Anniversary Convention, scheduled for May 14-17, 2003 in San Antonio, TX. It is, of course, a great loss for the paperweight collecting community and signifies the passing of an era. Thankfully, Paul was in good health up until the very moment of his passing. He will be missed!

THANK YOU ALL... Our members have proven extremely generous over the past few months in donating a number of useful artifacts as Raffle and Door prizes for our meetings and we wish to thank the following for their contributions: the Suttons, Diane Atkerson, Ethel P. Henry, Florence Kvalnes, the Robinsons, the Schindlers, Len Kornit, Roger Jacobsen, Sara Dierolf, the Mikelbergs and the Krugers. All your donations have shown up or will in future show up on our programs as needed. Thanks again.

PCA BIENNIAL CONVENTION... The Paperweight Collectors Association, Inc. will hold its biennial convention in San Antonio, TX from May 14-17, 2003 with primary programs starting on Thursday, the 15th. You must be a member of the PCA to attend. The site of the convention is the Adams Mark Hotel, 111 East Pecan Street, San Antonio 78205. This convention will be special for several reasons, not the least of which is that it will mark the 50th anniversary of the PCA's founding. Two unique exhibits will be presented, selected weights from some of the best Texas collections and the final year's production items from Perthshire Paperweights, the Scottish maker that closed its doors forever on January 25, 2002. Elections will be held to fill the positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer for two-year terms and Region II and Region III Directors for four-year terms. Hotel rooms at the Adams Mark may be reserved by calling the hotel's toll-free number, 800-444-2326; double occupancy rate is \$149 per night (before taxes).

FUTURE PAPERWEIGHT EXHIBIT BY DVPCA... It is almost certain that the idea floated by me last year, an exhibit of weights at a major local museum, to educate the museum-going public about our passion (addiction?), will not fly. However, overseas I saw, through the CPC's involvement in a major antique show, what might work here. We must align ourselves with a major local antique show that runs for two-four days, provide docents for a special large exhibit of paperweights from our members' collections the whole time that antique show runs and sign up all those who express interest in learning about weights or who already collect weights and are not now DVPCA members. I truly believe this can work; it would be a long-term project for someone able to devote the time to connecting with an antique show management group and offering this exhibit as a special feature for their show. The "proof of the pudding" is that the CPC signed up 35 new members during their four-day Antiques for Everyone Fair at the Birmingham National Exhibit Centre.

ADVANCE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS...SAVE THE DATES

April 12, 2003 Spring Meeting: Guest Speaker **John D. Hawley**, of Hernando, FL, Editor of the PCA Bulletin and author of The Glass Menagerie: A Study of Silhouette Canes in Antique Paperweights and The Boston and Sandwich and New England Glass Companies will discuss "New England Glass Company Copies of French Antiques". **Jim Lefever** will present a short Morning program as well.

July 12 & 13, 2003 11th Anniversary Celebration Weekend: Sponsored by **Nancy Alfano**, Portia Paperweights, Chicago, emerging artist **Jim Brown** of Mt. Juliet, TN, an engineer and long-time weight collector, will narrate a slide show on his history and development as a glass artist. **Nancy** will present a short Morning Program on a favorite niche subject. A Garden Party/Catered Cookout will follow at the Doylestown home of loyal member **Boyd England**. On Sunday, July 13, the group will tour Wheaton Village and the exhibits of Glass Weekend 2003.

October 11, 2003 Fall Meeting: The Magnificent Millefiori of **Drew Ebelhare**, Canon City, CO. **TENTATIVE!!!**

ALL MEETINGS AT WILLIAMSON RESTAURANT, HORSHAM, PA...SAVE THE DATES!!!

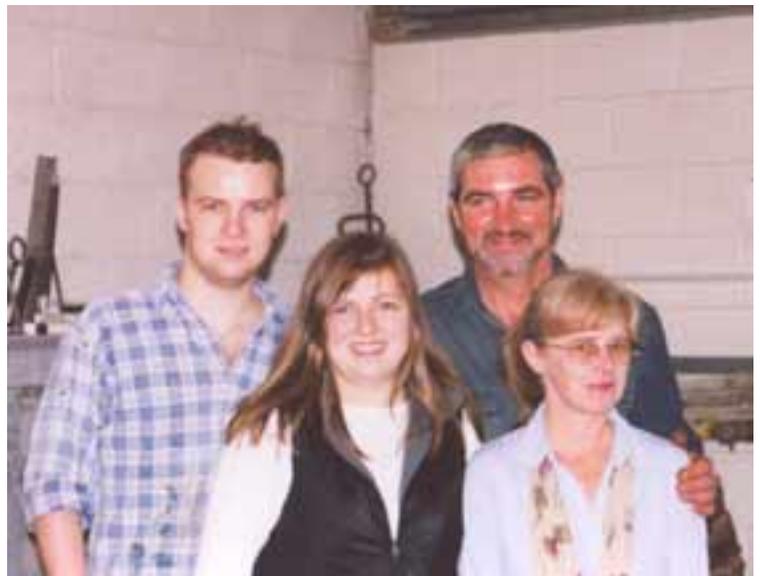
Thursday, 5 December: Each morning the breakfast buffet ran from 7:30 to 10 and I got into the habit of eating a huge breakfast and the gourmet dinner but little or nothing in-between. This doesn't work for Toby, however, as breakfast is her least favorite meal. Anyway, our bus left promptly at 9:30 AM for John Deacons's and Peter McDougall's studios, half of the group going to each and then being swapped around after an hour. Both are in Crieff, but about 20 minutes driving time from each other. (At times, we joked that Bill, the driver, should have brought the "rubber" bus, due to the acute curves in the hilly streets he was required to traverse.) We were in the first group at Deacons, a narrow stone cottage barely large enough for the lady lampworker, John and his son Craig as the gaffers, and the cutter, Peter. Theirs is a true cottage industry. John Deacons is huge; Craig is just as tall but has not yet developed the girth of his father. The weights they turn out are lovely and surprisingly delicate in form and finish. John provided as favors tiny glass "buttons", about 3/4" wide, which become the intricate center of flowers and other decorative elements after polishing. See Page 3 for a close-up. Toby had her heart set on a fish weight, and I wanted one of the marvelous crowns for which John is justly famous. We got the fish weight. One curiosity: John places his "seconds" in the flower garden outside the studio and no one seems to disturb them. At 10:50 AM, the other group of 25 arrived from McDougall's and we left for that studio. What a contrast! Peter McDougall works in the huge, airy end block of a commercial warehouse strip, with modern new equipment and his son, Scott, as assistant. Here we acquired a medium-size concentric millefiori piece that showed traces of Perthshire and Strathearn heritage. Of course, McDougall was the chief designer at Perthshire and came there with Stuart Drysdale from Strathearn. I asked about his speaking at a DVPCA meeting some day; he said that could only happen "between pots", that is, when one pot of molten glass was finished and before another started up. We left Peter's by coach at 12:10 PM, to return to the hotel for lunch. The afternoon program was to be a visit to the local Glenturret Distillery, but Toby and I had decided to forego that tour in favor of walking the narrow, hilly streets of Crieff, a town of 8-10,000. The bus left a group of us off in the town center. Toby was intent on finding a hair salon, the London drizzle having



Allen Scott, 19 years with Caithness Glass, 12/6/02

devastated her 'do, and the hotel was unable to fit her in. At the sixth salon that was fully booked, the proprietor was able to find her an appointment at M Hair Design in a tiny nearby shopping mall, for later that afternoon. I tried to tip the woman but she refused, patted me on the bum and sent us off with her good wishes. We had lunch, wandered into a few shops, found the salon, where she was taken early, and eventually got a taxi back up the hill to the "Hydro", as it is known locally. This interlude was just about the last free time we had in Scotland.

We rested in our room until time for the Cash Bar at 6:30. I had brought weights with me, hopefully to sell, and took them with me each evening, drawing a crowd but no buyers. Still it was enjoyable, showing off and explaining our 10th Anniversary Commemorative Weight and the other pieces, including two old English ones, to a new audience. All I had to do was open the briefcase and they gathered around. I loved it; since there were no dealers set up, I wasn't impinging on anyone's territory. Three hours later, after the gourmet dinner, Willie Manson arose to talk on "My Years with Paul Ysart". It turned into an unusually lengthy evening, not ending until after 11 PM. Willie started with The Harland Challenge Quiz, ten multiple-choice questions about Paul Ysart, with a possible total score of 70 points. The highest scorer was Margaret Massey, with 55. (She was also the only one with a perfect 10 on the Intelligence Test given on



The Manson Family: William Jr., Carolyn, William Sr., Joyce, 12/6/02

the bus up to Crieff, a smart and charming lady.) Each time it appeared that Willie had run out of talk, another question from the audience started him off again. I am

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saving the quiz for a future program on Paul Ysart.

Friday, 6 December: Promptly at 9:30 AM, the coach left for Perth, about 40 minutes away, dropping off half the group at Willie Manson's studio on the way, and continuing on to the Perth Museum for a private showing of about 120 weights in reserve (storage), in addition to the early Scottish weights and glass products on permanent display. Paul Ysart is considered the father of Scottish paperweights and trained or had dealings with all the makers we visited on this tour. We left the Perth Museum at 11:10 AM for the next stop, a visit to Caithness Glass, and a demonstration of paperweight making by Alastair MacIntosh, one of four senior designers pictured in their 2002 catalog. While waiting for that to begin, I wandered over to the Lampwork Studio and one of the staff came out to answer my questions. It was Allan Scott, another of the senior Caithness designers; he has been there for 19 years and his name is featured prominently in Colin Terris's 1999 volume, *The Charlton Standard Catalogue of Caithness Paperweights, First Edition*. I asked Allan about some early Caithness Whitefriars weights; he remembered them and filled me in. Regarding Colin Terris, Allan said that though Colin retired formally two years before, he still "hung around" the factory. At the last minute, Toby picked up some lunch to eat on the bus as we moved on to Willie Manson's, another large, modern open commercial studio, to be greeted by the entire family, William, son Willie, daughter Carolyn and wife Joyce Manson, the office manager. Manson's studio is also being used by three ex-Perthshire employees, Gordon Taylor, the cutter, with Perthshire 20 years, Duncan Smith, the lampworker, with Perthshire 22 years, and David McNichol, the weight maker, with Perthshire 13 years, to produce a new line known as Phoenix Paperweights, a company that William Manson owns. Here, we acquired a mostly cobalt one-off Phoenix Paperweight and Willie Jr.'s limited edition "Prairie Daisy", 1 of 5, a huge heavily faceted complex daisy bouquet with butterfly and green flash overall. Willie is just 21 and did it all himself! How proud of him Joyce and William must be.



Debbie and Colin Mahoney, Bob Hall, Michelle McGuire, Eileen Hall, Charles Hall, Bob's grandson, 12/7/02

We arrived back at the "Hydro" at about 4 PM, to rest up and change (the weekend, don't you know) before the Cash Bar at 6:30. There I repeated the performance with the briefcase of weights but still no takers, only lookers. After the gourmet meal, our entertainment was provided by Alastair Petrie and his slide talk called "Collecting in Scotland". Norah and Alastair had begun their collecting in the very early 1970's, when Ysarts were selling for only a few pounds and all the makers we had met on this tour were just beginning their training. Afterwards, I heard the comment, more than once: "I thoroughly enjoyed Petrie's talk and slides, if only he hadn't mentioned the prices he paid!"

Saturday, 7 December: This day was devoted to Edinburgh and the holiday shopping crowd. At 9:30, the bus left for the Royal Edinburgh Museum, arriving 11 AM, there to view the few weights in storage, which, to our amazement, included four French antiques worthy of prominent and permanent display. Of course, the museum staff had no idea what they were, listing the antique faceted Saint Louis bouquet, for example, as an Ysart! After this, some of the group elected to remain "on the hill", that is, in Old Edinburgh around the Palace of Holyroodhouse, official residence in Scotland of Her Majesty, the Queen. The bus dropped off the rest of us on Princes Street at 12:30 PM, to mingle with the holiday shopping crowds. We would have three hours to shop before meeting the bus for the return trip to Crieff.

In England and Scotland, and perhaps in all the British Isles, it is tradition to ride outdoor carousels and Ferris wheels to celebrate the holiday season. The largest wheel, in London, is The Big Eye, 450 feet tall, with cars completely enclosed, and moving so slowly your progress is imperceptible. In Edinburgh, the wheel is smaller but still substantial, with open cars, and located right next to the famous memorial tower to Sir Walter Scott. Toby bought a few small items and we wandered the stalls set up around the carousel until time to meet

(continued on page ten)

the bus. It was a happy though crowded time. We were in SCOTLAND, by gum!

Back at the “Hydro”, we rested briefly and changed into the required “smart dress” for the Cash Bar and final banquet. An entertainer, decked out as a waiter, mingled with the group and made pointed remarks about glass paperweights and the mentality that collects them. At 7:30, a bagpiper, in kilt and tartans, led the group in to dinner and when all were seated began the presentation of “The Haggis”, which was crowned by a huge set of antlers. He then, in unintelligible (at least to these ears) Gaelic, told the tale of “The Haggis”, ending by plunging a bayonet-like knife into the intestine. We were fed an appetizer from this haggis before the gourmet meal began and it was tasty. After dinner, there were a number of speeches. Bob Hall recognized and thanked a number of CPC’ers who had assisted in arranging this trip, Anne Anderson led a cheer for Bob, and I thanked the group for making us so welcome and invited those with computers to look up Delaware Valley’s website and consider joining and attending a meeting! The final speaker of the evening was Peter Holmes, who, after 40 years, mostly at Selkirk Glass, was striking out on his own, with his son Andrew, as Scottish Borders Art Glass. He had brought a number of samples of his new products, of course, and Toby and I placed orders for two pieces. We left the dinner room at midnight, saying goodbyes to the couples we had become particularly close to, packed up as much as possible, and retired at 12:30.

Sunday, 8 December: The final day of the CPC tour of Scotland would be the all day bus ride back to the Birmingham area, but we would not be on the bus. Instead, we were extending our trip to include a couple days in Paris. So, at 7 AM, an eight passenger van left the “Hydro” for the Edinburgh Airport with the Krugers, the Schindlers and Monte and Michelle McGuire, for flights on British Airways to “the City of Lights” and to the States for the McGuires. Arriving at 3 PM at the Charles deGaulle Airport, 23 kilometers northeast of Paris center city, we waited until a taxi large enough to hold four and all our luggage could be located. Regular taxis will carry no more than three passengers there.

We were heading for the Citadines Paris Montmartre, 16 Avenue Rachel, a one-block long cul-de-sac, at the entrance to the Montmartre Cemetery (which was gated at night), and just around the corner from the famed Moulin Rouge, on Boulevard de CLICHY! The Schindlers had done Paris before but not the Moulin Rouge show, and Beverly would not be denied this time! We had dinner nearby and walked the Boulevard but could not gain entrance to the Moulin Rouge that night although we were able eventually to make a reservation for the next night, Monday, at about \$150 per person.



Peter Holmes with Toby Kruger

Monday-Tuesday, 9-10 December: Besides the Moulin Rouge, other highlights of our 51 hours in Paris were the six or so hours we spent on the L’Open Tour bus, set up in three color coded routes just as in London, visiting the Louvre Museum shops and Rest Rooms (not enough time for the exhibits themselves on Monday and the Museum was closed on Tuesdays), 3.25 hours at the Musee D’Orsay (WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL) and the serendipitous two block

walk between tour bus routes that brought us to the Saint Louis store on Rue de Royal late on Tuesday afternoon. We had an appointment for a 5 PM taxi back to the CDG Airport and it was now 3:45 PM. Of course, we entered the store and ultimately acquired our final weight for this trip, the limited edition Pensees de Colette, 55/100, two pansy-like “Johnny Jump Up” flowers on stems with leaves on an aqua ground, the center of the left flower being the signature/date cane (and difficult for these eyes to read even with a 10 power magnifier). We made it back to the hotel at 4:52, to find the Schindlers waiting and wondering. Despite a late taxi, we all found our flights back to England for the return home. Next year, more Paris, then Rome and Venice! Suddenly I’ve become a world traveler!

Museum has exhibits of glass plates, Vaseline glass and weights by other makers. Diane recommended the Museum as a good place to visit.

7. Kay Reid mentioned that Zanesville Pottery was near the Degenhart Museum and added that the two Saint Louis weights in their display were given to them by the factory during their 1982 tour of Europe.

8. Fourteen attendees (names on request) won sixteen Today's Raffle Prizes.



Program speakdrs, 10/26/02: Kay Reid, Ethel Henry, President Stan, Dr. Bernard A. Drabeck

President Kruger then introduced bi-annual Elections. He stated that we had lost our candidates for President and VP through business reversals and demise, respectively. After much discussion, Boyd England motioned that we postpone the election of those two officers until the next meeting, which motion was seconded and passed. Sue Sutton and Don Formigli were re-elected, by acclamation, to their second terms as Secretary and Treasurer, where, President Kruger said, they have been performing in an outstanding fashion. A nominating committee was appointed, with Len Kornit as Chair, and Diane Atkerson, Andy Dohan and Boyd England as members, charged to come up with nominees for the two top positions at the Winter Meeting on January 25, 2003. After this, Andy Dohan presented President Stan and Toby Kruger with two weights as a token "thank you" for their six years of service. Toby chose, from two identical boxes, a Drew Ebelhare concentric, while Stan chose a collection of millefiori in a magnifying dome that promptly broke open!

President Kruger then introduced Bernard A. Drabeck, a Ph.D. Emeritus Professor at

Greenfield Community College, and the author of many English texts as well as the new Kaziun book, the subject of his talk. "Ben", as Dr. Drabeck is commonly known, discussed the origin and evolution of his latest book. In 1975, he helped organize a paperweight exhibit, during which he began an archive on New England glass artists, starting with Charles Kaziun, whose name was actually Charles Kaziun, Jr. [5/18/1919-1/13/1992]. Ben and his aides photographed the three major Kaziun collections in New England and, much later, Ben decided to write a book for Larry Selman based on these pictures and his interviews with Kaziun's family. For the book, Ben wrote an introduction that covered Kaziun's career. Eventually, Charles Kaziun III [who produces miniature weights with metallic inclusions] gave Ben sets of note cards from talks his father had delivered. Ben condensed these into a single writing that then

became the text for the book, which required five years to complete. Fifteen hundred copies were printed and Ben hopes to issue a revised and expanded edition when those sell out.

Charles Kaziun began his career in 1942 at the University of Pennsylvania, working in scientific glass with his boss, James Graham. Around this time, Grace Howell gave him Evangeline Bergstrom's 1940 book, Old Glass Paperweights. Most weights made then were production pieces, but Kaziun challenged himself to replicate classic era French weight techniques. There was no help from manuals or knowledgeable people. He began with buttons and developed every technique on his own – millefiori canes, pulled to arms' length by himself, latticinio, lampwork, everything. He learned about crimp roses in South Jersey where he went to buy glass for the lab. He visited Emil Larson's home; when he saw a Larson pedestal rose, his heart stopped. Larson wouldn't talk to him about rose weights so

Kaziun experimented with small roses first, not realizing that these were harder to make than large ones. Larson would only tell him when he was doing something right but no more. After three years, Kaziun produced a rose that Larson wanted to buy, so he knew it was a success!

Dr. Drabeck showed slides of Kaziun's work, beginning with the work he did for the Howell family, buttons, small weights, etc. He noted that Kaziun was a physically large man but his fingers were long, slim and tapered; he was a minimalist who achieved the maximum effect with minimalist techniques. Kaziun made snake weights, the snakes with upraised heads, pedestal weights with encased roses or lilies, pansy weights of many different color combinations, flowers surrounded by canes or torsades. His wife, Louise, helped him pull canes but he would accept no suggestions for his setups. Kaziun never did lampwork bouquets, perhaps because his setups were so small. He made miniature footed roses, 1 ½" tall and tulips, rare because they were expensive to produce. Kaziun's ruby red color was difficult to achieve and easily spoiled. Facetting was important in his weights but it was hard to find a good cutter. He found one in Otto Karl Banks, who faceted Kaziun's weights perfectly without marking guide lines on them first! Kaziun tried facetting his own weights but never got good at it. Among his designs were wild roses, mums, pond lilies with a cluster of yellow stamens, millefiori, silhouette canes, canes as flower petals, piecrust canes, Clichy rose canes, chequer weights with canes in each of the nine sections, and crown weights with ribbons and a rose on top. He might make three weights of one design and no more, stopping when he felt he'd mastered the problem. Did he make money? No, not a lot – he would charge only \$35 for a rose weight. Dr. Drabeck opined that Kaziun was a true paperweight genius, in that he did EVERYTHING, although he wasn't overly ambitious. Eventually, after 20 years, he left the University of Pennsylvania lab in 1962 and made only paperweights thereafter.

Kaziun made a series of silhouette canes, his response to the classic French sulphide weights, and used a number of different signature canes. One of his double overlay weights was identified by the Saint Louis factory as one of their best pieces, until Kaziun pointed out the tiny "K" signature cane that the factory had overlooked. He later considered this one of his finest compliments! Kaziun made bottles with stoppers containing flowers from 1942 on, some with flowers in the stoppers, some, in the base of the bottle, also a double overlay bottle, bottles engraved by Otto Banks, a cruet with a flowered stopper, ring holders, vases and 24 salt dishes. During the Question and Answer period, Dr. Drabeck elaborated on Kaziun overlays, saying he made them in single or double overlays in transparent or opaque glass. Kaziun's silhouettes were not actually silhouette canes; the decoration was on the top surface of the cane, made with a stencil or an old photographic technique. He concluded by noting that Kaziun's favorite statement was, "It'll be ready next week!"

After appreciative applause, President Kruger urged members to review, and buy from, Roger Jacobsen's weight display before leaving. He noted that the date of the Spring Meeting next year had changed from April 26 to April 12, 2003. The final section of the program was the awarding of 17 Door Prize paperweights, 15 donated by Beverly Schindler and two by Florence Kvalnes. The formal meeting concluded at about 3 PM and the room cleared by about 4 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Sutton, Secretary

WINTER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT...January 25, 2003

At Williamson Restaurant, 500 Blair Mill Road (Route 611/Easton Road at Blair Mill Road), Horsham, PA
Located two traffic lights north of PA Turnpike Exit 27...Telephone (215) 675-5454

MORNING PROGRAM: "Your Favorite Patriotic Paperweight" Contest... Patriotic paperweights are not just red, white and blue, according to William Drew Gaskill, Education Director of PCA, Inc., as that is the most common color combination in European national flags. And patriotism is a relatively new concept, dating only from the 1850's. Flags are the ultimate patriotic symbol, of course, but patriotism can be expressed in many diverse ways, through images of political icons, wartime heroes, historical recollections such as peace medals celebrating treaties between the U.S. government and Indian tribes, images of the American eagle, in England images of "royals", sulphides, busts and intaglio images of American Presidents, wartime sentiments, etc., etc., etc. While not great works of art, patriotic paperweights are collectible because they are interesting, historical and colorful and retain a value based on sentiment and cultural significance (think, for example, 9/11). So bring in your patriotic paperweights, as many as you like, even if you are not certain they qualify as patriotic weights. They will be numbered and voted on, with paperweight prizes for the three voted most popular.

AFTERNOON PROGRAM: "Celebrating 30 Years Making Paperweights: Reflections of the Past, A Window on the Present" by Hammonton, NJ artist Robert Banford. Only 51 now, Bob produced his first paperweights 30 years ago, in 1973, after several years of scientific glass work in South Jersey, and sold them to noted dealer Arthur Gorham. Although he had no "formal" lampwork training, by 1975 he was so skilled that Murano, Italy Maestro Severino Bubacco invited him to demonstrate at a series of expositions in Paris. Mention must be made of the very close working relationship Bob shared with his father, Ray, exemplified in their many "father and son" collaborative weights. Bob was the first maker to produce "compound:" weights, that is, multi-layered designs, in his weights. In 1976, one of his weights was accepted for permanent display at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, one of the first accorded this privilege. Bob was also one of the few contemporary artists asked to participate in the famous 1978 Corning exhibit "Paperweights: Flowers Which Clothe the Meadows" and is the first and only contemporary artist to have his weight on the cover of a PCA Bulletin (1988). Most recently, just last year, 2002, Bob was asked to produce an ornament for the White House Christmas tree. He made a piping plover in colored glass, attended a reception at the White House and met First Lady Laura Bush. Bob continues to challenge himself and to set his personal goals ever higher.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 10:00 AM** Paperweight Fair with William Pitt of Fairhaven, MA; Members' Tables; Displays; Brochures and Literature Free for the Taking; Coffee, Tea and Danish provided for Early Arrivals.
- 11:00 AM** "Your Favorite Patriotic Paperweight" Contest, Prizes for the Three Most Popular Weights.
- 12:05 PM** LUNCH
- 1:05 PM** Business Meeting, Elections of President and Vice President (postponed from 10/26/02), Announcements, Raffle Prize Winners, Silent Auction Results, Reports from the Floor.
- 1:35 PM** "Celebrating 30 Years Making Paperweights" by Bob Banford
- 2:45 PM** Paperweight Fair continues.

DUES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2003 ARE NOW DUE: Please submit the proper sum with the tear-off slip below, even if you do not plan to attend the Winter Meeting. We have held the line on Single and Household Memberships but due to rising costs have been forced to increase Business Memberships to \$30.

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS – JANUARY 25, 2003

Choices @ \$14.50 each _____ Number attending
____ Boneless Breast of Chicken Maryland, w/Bacon
____ Broiled Fresh Scrod, Tartar Sauce

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2003

____ Single Membership \$20
____ Business Membership \$30
____ Household Membership \$30

Please mail this slip with ALL your selections and check to: DVPCA, c/o Don Formigli, Treasurer

455 Stonybrook Drive, Levittown, PA 19055 **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 18, 2003!**



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DUES FOR 2003 ARE NOW DUE!
See inside back page...

ISSUE CONTENTS:

- Lead Article: "Innocence Abroad"
- Review of Events, Fall Meeting 10/26/02
- The President's Scramble
- Advance Meeting Dates and Guests
- Winter Meeting Announcement for January 25, 2003
- Dues Bill for Calendar 2003

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