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Here It Is, Folks: Paperweight Fest 2006

by Stanley B. Kruger

Some of you may know how Delaware Valley Paperweight Collectors Association became involved in the planning for, and construction of, Paperweight Fest 2006 at Wheaton Village, May 18-21, but many of you may not. For purposes of future reference and to set the record straight, here is one version of how the collaboration between Wheaton Village and DVPCA came about, including an advance look at the four days of events which comprise the Fest. Make no mistake: Paperweight Fest 2006 is a function of the non-profit Wheaton Village organization, but this particular Paperweight Fest would not have come about without the extensive cooperation and involvement of DVPCA.

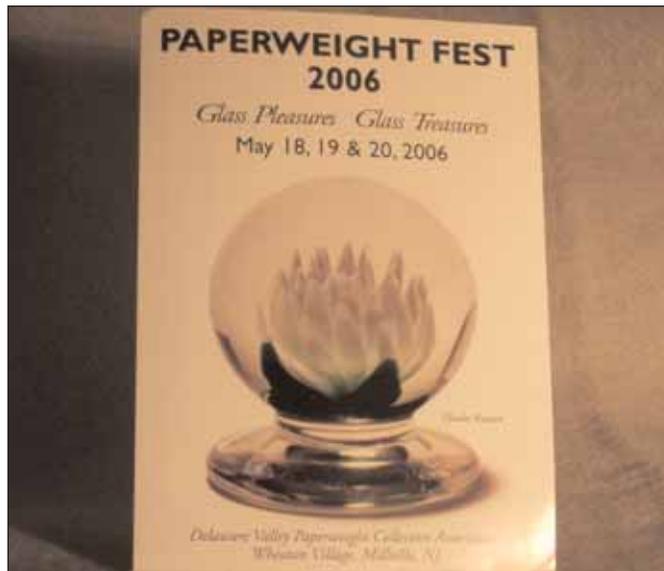
In late March 2005, Gay Taylor, Curator of the Museum of American Glass at Wheaton Village, emailed the author that Susan Gogan, President of Wheaton Village, wanted to meet with me to discuss the Paperweight Weekend planned for May 2006. That meeting took place on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 in the Administration Building Conference Room at Wheaton Village. Attending from WV: Susan Gogan, Gay Taylor, Marcy Howard Peterson and Cathy Nolan; for DVPCA: Toby and me. There we were presented with a written proposal by Wheaton Village that DVPCA partner with the Village to co-host and produce a "new" paperweight event, tentatively scheduled for May 18-20, 2006, to be called either

"Delaware Valley Paperweight Weekend" or "Mid-Atlantic Paperweight Weekend". DVPCA would participate in making decisions related to marketing, dealer exhibition, food, program and demonstrating artists, and would receive 10% of the net profit from the event. Pointing toward the rapidly approaching PCA, Inc. Convention in Appleton and Neenah, Wisconsin, May 18-21, 2005, barely five weeks away, Susan noted that it would be very helpful to have DVPCA's prompt response to the proposal, in order to print a "Save the Date" card for distribution at Convention.

Fortuitously, DVPCA's Spring Meeting was held that Saturday, April 16, and the main agenda item during the Business Meeting was the Village's three page proposal. After an extended discussion, the 48 attendees, a representative number of regulars, nearly unanimously accepted the proposal; about 20 signed up as volunteers to work at least ten hours on some phase of the event and ten, by show of hands, volunteered for 40 hours. We were a "GO" and I immediately informed Susan Gogan and other WV staff to generate a "Save the Date" card. One change had already occurred as a result of our April 12 meeting; thanks to Marcy Howard Peterson, the event would no longer be termed a "weekend". Marcy wanted to cast off a label that suggested a time frame in favor of a title that conveyed joy and celebration. So, the 400 cards distributed at Convention announced "Paperweight Fest 2006", May 18, 19 & 20, 2006. And Toby contributed the subtitle "Glass Pleasures, Glass Treasures"!

Next, a P.F.'06 Planning Committee of interested DVPCA members was formed, consisting of Andy

Dohan, Boyd England, Pat Ackerman, Brian and Suzanne Landis, Bill Price, Beverly and Marty Schindler, Jim Lefever, John Hawley, Gay Taylor, Toby and myself. Since almost all were planning to attend Convention, I advised them of an informal P.F.'06 brainstorming session at 4 PM on Wednesday, May 18, in the lobby of the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel and Conference Center, the Convention site. This was



"Save the Date" card distributed at PCA Convention, May 2005

poor timing on my part because there were "hands-on" sessions at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum that afternoon; still, Nancy Alfano of Portia Paperweights, Brian and Suzanne, Bill Price, Pat Ackerman and Toby and I spent an hour thinking up new approaches to a paperweight event at Wheaton Village. I have Pat Ackerman's typed notes of that informal session and am reminded of the need for more PR and publicity, even now!

I set another meeting of the Planning Committee for 8 AM on Friday, May 20, in the hotel buffet breakfast area and reserved a private ten person table (and ten showed up). Andy D. came with a three page memo dated May 17 suggesting about 20 paperweight topics and ten murrine makers for P.F.'06 and we had a very lively discussion for an hour. Two days after our return home from Convention, on May 24, Andy sent around an expanded Memo (seven pages!), covering every phase of the projected Fest, including more than 30 topics for lecture/demonstration, handouts, exhibitor and artist (about 35) solicitation, a new approach to Make Your Own glass item at WV, food service, marketing and even pricing for the event. He literally covered every phase of planning. If P.F.'06 is a success, Andy Dohan will be the one person primarily responsible for that success!

Andy sent his extraordinary Memo via email attachment at 9:45 AM on May 24, asking for

feedback from Gay and myself. My four page email response begins, "My G-d, have you done all this since returning home two days ago?" Over the next two months, Andy and I engaged in a lengthy correspondence. He would send the raw data about speakers, topics, Glass Studio demonstrators, time frames, etc. and I would type them into a proposed Schedule of Events. Many such drafts ensued.

A major order of business was nailing down the exact duration of P.F.'06. The Save the Date cards at Convention quoted May 18-20, whereas Andy proposed May 17-20, 2006. Our many editions of a P.F.'06 program draft, and the exact duration of the Fest were altered by many, many compromises agreed upon at a joint meeting between DVPCA and WV on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 at the Village. Though we wanted Fest to open on Wednesday evening, May 17 with the traditional Artists and Dealers Fairs and WV wanted the Fairs to start on Thursday evening, we all agreed that Paperweight Fest 2006 would begin officially at 9 AM on Thursday, May 18 and run through noon on Sunday, May 21, 2006, making P.F.'06 the same length (and the same days!) as the 2005 PCA, Inc. Convention. However, there would be some informal activities on Wednesday, May 17, the day when most attendees would arrive at the Village.

We deliberately copied a number of the popular features of the 2005 Convention, including two hours of Box Lunch and Learn sessions with the artists, but we collapsed the Artists and Dealers Fairs into one huge Exhibitors Fair on Thursday evening, May 18. Other changes were made, lengthening the demonstration sessions on Sunday afternoon, for one, at a second joint meeting on December 6 but we are now well satisfied that, together, we have arrived at a paperweight-focused event that covers topics not currently available in the paperweight literature and

presents glass artists not seen before at Wheaton Village “weekends”. And we have worked extra hard to keep the Registration fee for P.F.’06 down to a reasonable level such that a Friend of Wheaton Village will pay just \$202.50 for the four official days of events, May 18-21, 2006; that sum includes three box lunches, Thursday through Saturday, and the Saturday night Banquet. In addition, this Fest includes special access to the Museum of American Glass exhibition, “The Fires Burn On: 200 Years of Glassmaking in Millville” and there will be other rare exhibits mounted for Fest as well.

To honor the late William Drew Gaskill, President, Paperweight Collectors Association, Inc., who died in early November 2005 at age 56, there will be a Memorial Exhibit of approximately 1700 weights from his extensive paperweight collection in the Museum of American Glass, displayed exactly as they were displayed in his home.

Later this month, Registration packets for Paperweight Fest 2006 will be mailed to all PCA, Inc. members and to other potential attendees. If you would like to receive a Registration packet for P.F.’06, call the Village at 800.998.4552, Ext. 100.

Since the official Fest program is still being printed, what follows here is a summary of the activities planned for Paperweight Fest 2006, starting Wednesday, May 17, the day before Fest’s official opening:



Current "Save the Date" card for Paperweight Fest 2006

Wednesday, May 17, 2006:

10 AM – 5 PM

Make Your Own Weight or Whimsey in the T.C. Wheaton Glass Studio; Arthur Gorham Paperweight Shop Open

1 PM – 5 PM

Fest Registration in the A.G. Paperweight Shop
7 PM – 10 PM

Visit DVPCA Hospitality Suite in the Country Inn

Thursday, May 18, 2005:

AM Speakers: **Gay Taylor** on “Millville

Paperweights: The Fires Burn On”.

Peter McDougall on “39 Years of Weighting”

Jamie McDougall on “Canadian Folk Art Paperweights”

12 – 2 PM

Box Lunch and Learn sessions with four different glass artists, repeated, pick two.

PM Speakers: **John Deacons** on “New Work”
Boyd England on “Oscar ‘Skip’ Woods and the Ultimate Crimp Rose”

Studio Demo: **Don Friel** makes a crimp rose paperweight

5:30 – 7 PM

Wine and Cheese Reception

7 – 9 PM

Exhibitors Fair – Open to Fest registrants ONLY

Friday, May 19, 2006:

AM Speakers: **Mike Hunter** on “The Story of Twists Glass”

Ken Brown on “Antique Baccarat Flowers”

Ed Poore on “Post-1970 Pairpoint Millefiori”

Bill Price on “Paperweights That Move”

12 - 2 PM

Box Lunch and Learn sessions with four different glass artists, repeated, pick two.

2 – 5 PM

Murrine Madness with Loren Stump and Chris and Lissa Juedemann

4 – 7 PM

Exhibitors Fair – Open to Fest Registrants and Wheaton Village Members

DINNER ON YOUR OWN



PAPERWEIGHT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Review of Events

Fall Meeting, October 15, 2004

DVPCA's Fall Meeting convened on Saturday, October 15, 2005 on a positive note. After eight straight days of rain, the sun shone on the 47 members, guests, speakers and dealers who converged on Williamson Restaurant, Horsham, PA that morning. At 10 AM, the munching of Danish and the sipping of coffee and tea resounded through the cavernous meeting room as everyone inspected the many exhibits: Dale Murschell's Devil's Fire weights and mantel ornaments, Guest Dealer Roger Jacobsen's extensive weight and reference book display and marbles, weights, jewelry and more books offered by members Bev Schindler, Andrew Scott, Frank Gardner, Stan Kruger, Ken Brown and others. In addition, there were newsletters from other local PCAs, selections from the DV Paperweight Lending Library, Free for the Taking maps, brochures and antiques newspapers, Today's Raffle Prizes and entries in the six categories of the Best Finds Contest of 2004/2005, Best Antique, Best Modern, Best Buy, Most Attractive, Most Unusual and Ugliest..

At 11 AM, our President called the meeting to order, first welcoming first-timers Manny and Joan Eisenfeld, Frank Kidwell and Anthony Locascio and beseeching the membership to be kind and gentle to these adventurous souls. Dr. Ben Drabek then introduced the morning program, a Josh Simpson videotape, "Where the Earth Meets the Sky", of the artist, his studio, his crew and his working method. Did you know that there is a museum in Japan devoted to Simpson's work? Members



Ben Drabek and Roger Jacobsen setting up, 10/15/05

who are glass workers nodded in agreement when Josh said that glass is a difficult material with which to work. "It just wants to drip on the ground and burn you on the way down!" Josh started at New York's Hamilton College but went to Goddard College in Vermont one summer to learn glassmaking. When he found their furnaces weren't working, he built one and spent a month learning about glass. He then took a year's leave of absence from Hamilton, rented 50 acres in Vermont, and built a 12'x12'x12' studio. He was 22 years old. He now lives and works in the Berkshire Mountains. "Furnaces are like farm animals", he says; they must be cared for all hours of the day and night. His studio now has different furnaces for different kinds of glass. Glass when hot is the consistency of cold honey; the worker must constantly turn the punty rod to keep the glass from dripping. Josh is creative when selecting tools; he uses dental tools for detail work and long ago stole his mother's flower frog to create grids of glass bubbles. A team of assistants helps with the larger projects but he works alone on weekends to make smaller objects. The team must orchestrate its movements to protect each other, and Josh, from the heat of the furnace and the object being worked. They have been described as "footballers doing ballet". They know what to do so profoundly that sometimes Josh doesn't have to say a word.

"Planet" weights came about because Josh was excited by the concept of small orbs teeming with life. How long does it take to make one? "Twenty minutes and 20 years!" Planets are multi-layered and a "satellite" or "orbital vehicle" is embedded in them somewhere. Planets usually turn out as he wants them to, but occasionally accidental effects occur, and then Josh

must decide whether to pursue them or not. "There are thousands of ways for a planet to go wrong and only one way to make it perfect." Some planets weigh 75 pounds so physics must be considered during their production. The videotape spent some time on the creation of a mega-planet and the viewer is impressed with Josh's ability to explain what shapes, surfaces and colors will look like once the glass has cooled from its working red-hot molten state. Some planets must anneal for as long as 40 days



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and might still emerge from the annealing oven shattered. Pieces that he really loved, Josh placed on his dining room table but visitors enjoyed them and bought them so Josh has very few in his own collection. Now when he loves a piece, he gives it to his wife; SHE can say, "No, you can't have that!" Cady is an astronaut but they met in 1990 before she went into space. While she was training in Houston, TX, they talked for hours on the phone so Josh has some understanding of her adventures. Cady has flown in the space shuttle, described the trip to Josh from her perspective, pointing out the 20 shades of blue at the edge of the earth and now Josh incorporates those colors into his planets. Although he made planets before Cady became an astronaut, and was attracted to space as a concept, she made Josh realize that HE could fly, too. And now he does. Flying gives Josh a new perspective on the world; he says he is always finding something new through flying which he can then bring to his glasswork.

"Portals" are faceted on the side so one can look at the detail in them. Some have a rough exterior, what he calls

"meteorite glass" that is opaque and resembles an actual tektite. "Covered Basket" pieces are a different series where the glass is blown into welded copper wire forms so that the glass breaks or bubbles through in places. "New Mexico" glass items began with a description of the desert, since Josh has never actually been to New Mexico. For these, he melts silver into glass to create unusual blues that look like a starry night. Spaceships for his Planets are made in such detail that one needs a microscope to examine them. Josh has been called schizophrenic; he takes that as a compliment. His finishing processes are very precise;

it is possible to ruin a piece in an instant. Removing one-one hundredth of an inch of glass can make all the difference. The last step in creating a Planet is adding his signature. His whole crew participates in making displays of his work for various museum installations. Josh designs the display for maximum impact and effect.

For 20 years Josh has hidden Planets and other weights around the world. This practice began when he dug up some antique marbles that had been lost 50 years



Ben and Roger set up, with onlookers, 10/15/05

before but still looked new. He has buried weights in Bali, Japan, Borneo and other locales, even at the foot of Norwegian glaciers. He enlists friends in this endeavor, which he calls his "Infinity Project". Visit his website (www.joshsimpson.com) and tell him where you would like to bury one of his Planet weights. Over 1600 participants since 2000 have done this and been surprised to receive a Josh Simpson weight to conceal somewhere on Earth. One final note: Cady says that when she shows slides of close ups of Earth taken from space and of Josh's Planets, at times it is impossible to tell which is which!



Dr. Bernard A. Drabeck with Josh Simpson products, 10/15/05

In conclusion, Dr. Drabeck stated that the video was made for Channel 57 and the station wants Josh to make another, showing him creating a very large Planet. Josh and Cady are now exhausted parents of their five year old son Jamey.

Members checked their name tags to determine to which Best Finds judging committees they were assigned and were given ten minutes to decide the winner in each of the six contest categories; but the "Best Modern" committee debated on and on! At 12:30 PM, a delicious choice of chicken or orange roughly luncheon was served. During lunch, Dale Murschell gave his table a preview of his talk and the discussion ranged from the real organic phenomenon of devil's fire to the New Jersey glassworkers who created this type of weight. The earlier New Jersey Devil's Fire weights were made in blues and greens, close to the colors of actual devil's fire. Later, more fanciful examples incorporated reds and yellows. Some of these brighter color Devil's Fire weights were created by Anthony DePalma but after a



Pat Ackerman, Elliott Heith at Roger Jacobsen's weight display, 10/15/05

discussion with Dale, Tony changed his palette back to the more accurate blues and greens. These weights were first made in South Jersey in the 1830s and 1840s by European immigrants who knew the phenomenon as "Fox Fire" and were probably inspired when the same was found in New Jersey's Pine Barrens.

At 1:30 PM, as dessert was being served, President Stan opened the business meeting by noting that paperweight dealer Larry Schwab was trying to re-establish a local

Florida PCA, along with Bob Hall, now a winter resident of the state, and Ron Roberts of R & S Treasures. Dr. Drabeck noted that he was involved in a December 3, 2005 paperweight auction at Douglass Auctioneers in Massachusetts, for which product was needed by November 1. A surprise cake was brought to Anne Brown, celebrating her birthday that very day; the group sang the traditional song for her. Stan read a letter from Susan Gogan, President of Wheaton Village, acknowledging the England-Kvalnes Memorial Fund for its contribution to the Creative Glass Center at WV, and thanking DVPCA for its continued support of the Village. Ken Brown announced an auction at his family firm, Brown Brothers, on November 12 of a small Utah collection of mostly antique weights that he had appraised earlier in the year. Stan noted that George Kamm had a kidney removed surgically on September 13 and most likely would appreciate notes sent to him at 23 Phillip Drive, Kirkwood, PA 17536, or to gkamm@earthlink.net, during his convalescence. The annual Caithness signing event at Wheaton Village will take place on November 12; Designer and Resident Historian Helen MacDonald and Lampwork Artist Linda Campbell will attend from Scotland. Jill Bauersfeld presented a

display of glass paperweight stands made by a company in Shepherdsville, KY; if DVPCA were to order in bulk, wholesale prices would be applicable. After some discussion, the group decided to raise our webmaster's pay from \$75 to \$100 per month. Of course, our webmaster, who also formats our quarterly newsletters, is Stan's son, Kevin.



Manny and Joan Eisenfeld, Marty Mikelberg, Toby Kruger, 10/15/05

Winners of the Best Finds Contests of 2004/2005 were announced, receiving paperweights (to be entered in the Best Finds "Ugliest" Contest of 2006/2007) as prizes, and they went to Ken Brown, Best Antique, Andrew Scott for Best Modern, Best Buy and Most Unusual, Richard Cohen for Most Attractive and Stan for Ugliest (a mostly cobalt and white NEGC scramble). Thirteen Today's Raffle Prizes were awarded, most of the winners coming from one table!

At 2:12, Stan introduced Guest Speaker Dale Murschell with a recitation of Dale's long term interest in glass. His topic: "So You Think Devil's Fire is a South Jersey Thing?" A summary of Dale's presentation was handed out for future reference. He became interested in Devil's Fire and the natural phenomenon behind this genre of weights in the 1980s; most, though not all such weights, were made in South Jersey. The phenomenon has various names, including "Fox Fire", "Will-o-the-Wisp", "Jack-O-Lantern", "Ignus Fatius", and Swamp Gas and Marsh Gas. The natural phenomenon is actually a luminous fungus that causes wood to glow; it often appears as a ghostly bluish light over graveyards. The best time to observe the phenomenon is in early August, when the weather is dry. It is caused by spontaneously ignited gases escaping from rotting logs and it produces methane gas. On a still dark night you can

see the flame dancing around forest areas but you must be in pitch darkness with no light anywhere about you and your eyes must be adjusted to the darkness. Since the rods and cones of the eye are distributed differently within the eyeball, neither stars nor fox fire can be seen looked at directly, only glancingly. This may explain the "dancing" or "moving" aspect of the flame, as well as the mysteriousness of the natural phenomenon.

Fox fire, or devil's fire, can be placed along paths to light the way at night. The phenomenon was noted in Bohemia in 1827 and mentioned in print, and noted even further back in Germany in 1807, where it was labeled "Will-o-the-Wisp". Many early glassblowers at Whitall, Tatum and Company in Millville, NJ came from Europe and were familiar with Fox fire/devil's fire and when they saw it in New Jersey, the phenomenon inspired the creation of Devil's Fire weights. The phenomenon is mentioned in Mark Twain's Huckleberry Finn. Newell, in Old Glass Paperweights of Southern New Jersey, states that Devil's Fire weights were first made at Whitall Tatum in the 1860s as a whimsey, not as a production item. Dale showed slides of a range of items with Devil's Fire inclusions, inkwells, perfume bottles and, of course, paperweights.



Frank Gardner, John Zecca, Ken Brown, 10/15.05

To make Devil's Fire inclusions, the glassworker placed colored glass chips on a marver and rolled the gather of molten glass over them, picking them up. Then the colored chips were pushed into the hot glass with an ice pick to make the spikes, which were then twisted. Gene Crabtree made such weights; several of his were shown, along with those by Skip Woods and Arthur Gorham and others made in Tiffin, Ohio. Tall pointed Devil's Fire



Pat Ackerman examining Dale Murschell's display of Devil's Fire pieces, 10/15/05

mantel pieces were created in pairs; many of these were made in South Jersey. Dale showed Devil's Fire pieces from three centuries, 19th, 20th and 21st. A Question and Answer period revolved around the relative costs of Devil's Fire items, the possible rise or fall in prices in future and Dale's three glassware websites (with a fourth site coming soon). Dale concluded at 2:55 PM to appreciative applause.

Stan noted that the MD/DC/VA PCA had taken a weekend bus trip to West Virginia glass houses, led by Beverly Schindler, the bus driven by her son. Stan thought that perhaps DVPCA would like to form such a trip, say, four days in late October 2006. We would need 10-15 to express firm interest and put down a



Dale Murschell, Jim Doherty with a Devil's Fire paperweight. 10/15/05



Elizabeth Dohan, Andy Dohan, first timer Anthony Locascio, 10/15/05

deposit. Stan outlined a possible scenario for a Thursday to Sunday trip and estimated the cost at about \$100 per day. However only one person raised a hand so the trip suggestion died on the spot. Stan outlined the next meeting on January 21, 2006 and released the attendees with the exhortation to "Buy more weights!" The meeting concluded shortly after 3 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Sutton,
Secretary



Don Formigli, Bev Schindler, David Rich, Louanna Hammond, 10/15/05

CALL FOR GLASS WEBSITES:

One of the projects DVPCA has taken on in aid of Paperweight Fest 2006 is the compilation of an extensive list of paperweight and glass-related websites, which list will be reproduced and distributed as a free giveaway item to all P.F.'06 registrants who attend the full conference. All of us who use the Internet have our own list of glass site "Bookmarks" or "Favorites" but, working together on this project, we may be able to produce a definitive website list for paperweight and art glass enthusiasts.

Google the word "paperweights" and you will come up with 205,000 sites! That's right, 205,000, give or take a few thousand. But you and I know that most of those sites are peripheral to our need for hard data about glass and glass paperweights. What we would like in this project list are the really useful glass sites, the ones we would refer to again and again.

For example, in my "Favorites" there is a folder called "Glass Sites" (45 sites), another folder for "PPWT Group Sites" (8 sites including DVPCA), a third folder of a dozen major "Auction Houses", any of which might show art glass or weights at any time, a fourth folder called "Museums-Magazines" with 23 museum or magazine sites that display or discuss glass on occasion and a number of glass-related sites sprinkled otherwise throughout my "Favorites" listing.

What we would like from you, from every reader of this newsletter, is YOUR list of favorite paperweight and glass-related websites. We will eliminate the duplicates and, hopefully, arrive at a website list we can all use to good effect. Send your site lists to stanleyk2@comcast.net before March 1, 2006 so that we may have enough time for the hand compilation and printing, well before the start of Paperweight Fest 2006.

And thank you for your support.

Stan Kruger

Saturday, May 20, 2006:

8:30 – 10 AM

John Deacons and Peter McDougall-
Demonstrations in the Glass Studio

10 AM – 5 PM

Exhibitors Fair – Open to the Public

AM Speakers: **Beth Tomasello** on "Marbles vs. Paperweights and Vice Versa"
Dale Murschell on "Paperweight-Like Glasshouse Whimseys"

12 – 2 PM

Box Lunch and Learn sessions with four different glass artists, repeated, pick two

2 – 4 PM

Demo Jam and Live Auction in the Glass Studio

6:30 PM

Cash Bar in the Heritage House

7:30 PM

Dinner

9 PM

Closing remarks and acknowledgements

Sunday, May 21, 2006:

10 – 1 PM

Make Your Own Weight or Whimsey

11 AM – 4 PM

Hourly Antique Weight Demonstrations in the

Glass Studio: **Joe Mattson** – Devil's Fire

Don Friel – Umbrella Paperweight
and Frit Sailing Ship

I wish to acknowledge the suggestions and the efforts of the entire P.F.'06 Planning Committee but we need you, the rank and file members of DVPCA and the other local and regional PCAs, to make Paperweight Fest 2006 an artistic, educational and financial success. So, please, mark your calendars and plan to attend. My suite at the Country Inn is Room 112. I hope to see you all there in May. 

THE SCRAMBLE:

DUES BILL FOR 2006...

If you paid your 2006 dues upon receiving the September 2005 Newsletter, please ignore this notice. HOWEVER, if you have not yet paid your \$25 for 2006, your dues are past due. Dues remain at the same level as before; every category of membership, Single, Household and Business, pays \$25, and any member may purchase quarterly ads in our award-winning newsletter for an additional \$20. Please send in your past due 2006 dues with the tear-off slip on Page 11, whether or not you plan to attend the Winter Meeting on January 21, 2006. Thanks.

CALL FOR ARTICLES...

Many of you have expertise in different areas, and genres, of paperweight collecting. Would you like to see your particular area featured in a lead article in this newsletter, and submitted for consideration of the Paul Jokelson Writing Prize offered by PCA, Inc.? Your Acting Newsletter Editor welcomes articles on any area of weight collecting, even "My Favorite Paperweight". The writing may be any length (between one and three full single spaced typed pages) and must include pertinent color pictures. Contact the Editor at stanleyk2@comcast.net or write to DVPCA President (address on Page 1).

THANK YOU...

As usual, members have been extremely generous, donating literature, weights and glass items to the club. Thanks to: Roger Jacobsen for two May 1977 Tillman Auction catalogs, Diane Atkerson for two candies made of glass, Joe Freeze for a magnum weight featuring the image of a sailing ship, Bart and Sue Sutton for two new copies of Glass Paperweights in the Art Institute of Chicago (a beautiful book) and Marty and Sandy Mikelberg for an entire box of weights and weight brochures. Thanks again!

CALENDAR:

ADVANCE MEETING DATES AND GUESTS

April 21, 2006: Last day to enter initial bids in **Larry Selman's Spring '06 Auction.**

April 29, 2006 Spring Meeting: AM: TBD. PM: **Gateson Recko**, of Universe Marbles, Swedesboro, NJ talks about his career in glass. Guest Dealers: **Dan & Therese McNamara.**

May 18-21, 2006: Paperweight Fest 2006 at Wheaton Village. Four days of seminars, Glass Studio demonstrations, Lunch and Learns with glass artists, Wine and Cheese Reception and Exhibitors Fair, live and silent auctions, etc., all focused on paperweights and paperweight techniques. **Not to be Missed!**

July 22 & 23, 2006 - 14th Anniversary Celebration Weekend: Saturday AM: TBD. PM: Master paperweight maker (for over 30 years) **Chris Buzzini** presents a retrospective of his life's work. Impromptu "Stump the Dummies" ID Clinic. Guest Dealer: **William Pitt.** Garden Party/Catered Cookout at a member's home following. **Sunday:** TBD.

October 7 & 8, 2006: Northeast Marble Meet, Radisson Hotel, Marlborough, MA.:

October 14, 2006 Fall Elections Meeting: AM: TBD. PM: Bergstrom-Mahler Museum Curator **Jami Severstad** presents a slide show featuring some of the Museum's rare paperweight holdings. Guest Dealer: **Roger Jacobsen.**

November 11, 2006: Leo Kaplan's annual Great American Paperweight Artist Show, 1-5 PM, NYC.

January 27, 2007 Winter Meeting: TBD

April 14, 2007 Spring Meeting: TBD

July 14 & 15, 2007 - 15th Anniversary Celebration Weekend: TBD

October 13, 2007 Fall Meeting: TBD

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

Winter Meeting Announcement

January 29, 2005

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
343 (Old Exit 27/Doylestown/Willow Grove)
Telephone (215) 675-5454

10:00 AM Paperweight Fair with Guest
Dealer **William Pitt**.

11:00 AM Andy Dohan and Stan Kruger
describe the current status of
Paperweight Fest 2006, May 18-
21, 2006 at Wheaton Village.

12:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 PM Business Meeting:
Announcements, Raffle Prize
winners, Silent Auction Results,
Reports from the Floor.

1:30 PM Guest Artist **Lewis C. Wilson** has led an extraordinary life. Born in Roswell, NM in 1949 into a military family, during his youth he lived in NM, TX, French Morocco, CA and Goose Bay, Labrador, Nova Scotia. He received a black belt in Shotokan Karate in 1969, at age 20, and taught the skill for ten years. From 1970 to 1974, he served as a medic in the US Air Force and was on the ground medical crew at Cape Canaveral in 1971 for Apollo XII. He learned lampworking in 1973 and when released from service the following year he apprenticed at Walt Disney World for three months. In 1974, at age 25, he founded Crystal Myths, Inc. and began doing art shows, over 200 from 1975- 1980. In 1981, he moved to Albuquerque and began a line of American Indian dancer sculptures. These have been presented to King Juan Carlos of Spain, the first President Bush and to President Bill Clinton. In 1994, Lewis made a glass guitar for Bo Diddly. He has produced 24 instructional videos and DVDs on working with glass at the torch and has taught over 1200 a beginner's class on bead making. In 1996 he promoted his first bead show; now, after eleven years the Tucson Best Bead Show has over 165 exhibitors, 117 of whom are glassworkers. More than 30,000

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buyers attend the show each February. In 1998, Lewis began making Schott Glass paperweights. His daughter, Jennifer, who is better at detail work than he is, assists him on most of the weights. In November 2002, Lewis promoted the world's largest hot glass competition, called the Albuquerque Flame-Off and attended by 300 glassworkers from the US and Canada. Six torches ran for fourteen hours a day for three days. Sixty-four competitors made beads, marbles, goblets and sculptures. In September 2005, Tom and Elaine Donner dedicated a building to Lewis at the Art Glass Invitational in Hilliards, PA. There were 120 glassworkers present. In December 2005, Lewis, along with Loren Stump, Chris Buzzini and Vittorio Costantini attended the International Lampworking Festival in Kobe, Japan, where Lewis was Master of Ceremonies and the only one of 17 Americans to present their demonstrations in Japanese.

2:30 PM Paperweight Fair continues.



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DUES FOR 2006 ARE PAST DUE!
See pages 10 & 11
inside this Newsletter!

ISSUE CONTENTS:

- Lead: Here It Is, Folks: **Paperweight Fest 2006**
- Review of Events: **Fall Meeting, October 15, 2005**
- **THE SCRAMBLE/CALENDAR**
- **Past Due Dues Bill for 2006**
- Announcement: **WINTER MEETING, January 21, 2006**
- Dated Reservations Tear-Off Slip

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