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January 2019

A Tour of the Glass Studios of Seattle By Lee Arnold

In October, while Neal was attending a medical convention in Seattle, I had the opportunity to tour some of the glass studios we didn't have a chance to visit on our earlier day-trip to Seattle during the 2015 PCA convention in Tacoma. Neal and I had one full day together in Seattle, pre-convention, where we visited the Seattle Aquarium (and yes there is Chihuly even there-see Figure 1-looking like a giant clam) and some



Figure 1



Figure 2

of the other sites on or near the waterfront. It was the next day that I ventured out on my own, visiting the Seattle Glassblowing Studio [Figure 2], not far from the Space Needle.

According to their website (seattleglassblowing.com) they were founded in 1991 by Cliff Goodman. Goodman began his career in glass in 1976, attending the Pilchuck School and later studying under glass master Fritz Driesbach. The Seattle Glassblowing Studio's mission is to provide an unforgettable glassblowing experience to all visitors and deliver world-class training to the next generation of glass artists. Their shop features work done at the Studio plus works of other local artists, and not just in blown glass. I picked up a Harbor Seal paperweight [Figure 3] for myself by Joy Munshower, having seen real seals at the Aquarium the day before. I also picked up a weight for Neal; but since it is a future gift, it has to remain a mystery for this article.



Figure 3

In the afternoon I ventured into Pioneer Square to visit the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park (<https://www.nps.gov/klse/index.htm>) and the Glasshouse Studio (glasshouse-studio.com). According to their

website, the Glasshouse Studio (see glass artist Mike Cozza in Figure 4) was founded in 1971 and is the oldest glassblowing studio in the Northwest. Their mission is to create a sanctuary where artists can design and produce one-of-a-kind pieces of art. There was so much to see there (a very extensive shop) that I knew I'd have to return.



Figure 4

The next day I did a 10-hour trip up to Mount Rainier National Park (<https://www.nps.gov/mora/index.htm>). There, along with a guide and six other hearty folk, I hiked and enjoyed the sights [Figure 5]. I was hoping to see a Sasquatch (<https://www.bfro.net>), but no luck.



Figure 5

The following day I returned to Pioneer Square. I started off with a visit to the Stonington Gallery (stoningtongallery.com). They specialize in Native American art and featured, while I was there, the works of glass artists Preston Singletary (see raven holding a disk in Figure 6) and Dan Friday (see the glass bear in Figure 7) . Back at the Glasshouse

Studio, I bought Neal a jellyfish paperweight object by Mike Cozza [Figure 8] since we saw lots of jellies at the Aquarium and I was feeling (albeit only minorly) guilty for having such a good time site-seeing while he was attending lectures all week. We treated ourselves that evening to an exhibit at the Seattle Art Museum (seattleartmuseum.org) and a lovely dinner. And before we knew it, it was time to head back to Philadelphia.



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8

President's Message

Happy New Year to one and all! Toby and I hope that you have a happy and healthy 2019 filled with great acquisitions to your collections.

Well, winter is finally here and many creatures are hibernating until the first wisps of spring appear. We paperweight collectors don't actually hibernate but the cold weather does seem to put a damper on our enthusiasm. We in DVPCA are lucky to have a winter meeting to keep our enthusiasm up, and of course for many of us the PCA convention is a grand event to look forward to in May. Some of my best finds on ebay have come in the winter months, so every night I peruse the many offerings on the internet with great anticipation until the last listing fails to peak my interest and I retire with the thought "there's always tomorrow."

I want to thank the many members who came through with paperweight offerings for our last minute sell and swap meet in the October meeting to fill in for Ben Drabeck, our guest dealer, who was too ill to attend. We all wish Ben a speedy recovery.

On the program front, our Vice Presidents, Neal Demp and Lee Arnold, did an outstanding job in setting up and running our first Paperweight Jeopardy contest. It's this kind of imagination and enthusiasm that makes DVPCA the great group it is and I hope that others will chip in with new ideas to improve our meetings.

This year will feature our usual four meetings – besides our upcoming January 26 affair described later on in this issue, be sure to save the dates April 13, July 20, and October 19. Also, be sure to save the dates May 15–18 of the PCA, Inc. Convention. I hope to see a great turnout of DVPCA members in Dearborn.

Last but hardly least, I must thank all of my officers for their fine work in 2018 and I look forward to working with them in 2019. Vice Presidents Lee Arnold and Neal Demp worked to find guest artists, prepared articles for the Newsletter, made a very interesting presentation on their collections, and of course came up with the idea for Paperweight Jeopardy and followed through with it last meeting. Don Formigli, besides his Treasurer duties, was responsible for arranging meeting locations and the lunch menus. Our Secretarial Pool of Gail Muntz, Audrey Smit, and Dorothy Disney always came through with detailed and accurate meeting minutes. Finally, I would be remiss and in great trouble if I did not mention the fine work done by our Newsletter Editor Toby Hawley.

John Hawley
President, DVPCA

Minutes from October DVPCA meeting

We had a beautiful day on Saturday, October 20, 2018 for our meeting at the Buck Hotel. 26 people attended the meeting. It started off with a nice variety of paperweights and glass items offered by our members. Because of the illness of our scheduled dealer, Ben Drabeck who was not able to attend, a call went out to the members to bring in weights and glass items that they would be willing to part with for sale. Approximately 10 members brought in items.



*A Dazzling Array of Weights by Guest Artist
Chris Sherwin*

The meeting was called to order by John Hawley. He introduced our guest artist Chris Sherwin from Bellows Falls, Vermont. Chris brought a large variety of glass paperweights to sell. There were pumpkins and animals as well as traditional style paperweights. Chris took an elective course on glass blowing at Southern Connecticut University and that started his love for working with hot glass. Chris began his glass artist life at the Simon Pierce glass studio in 1993 where he learned a lot about the blowing of glass from doing repetition work of goblets and clear glass pieces. In 1997 he and his wife moved to California where he started working for Orient & Flume in Chico, Ca. There he learned the California technique of painting with glass. He stayed at Orient and Flume until 2004 and mastered designs from their artists and also Richard Satava. He was also allowed to create his own designs and sell them. In 2004 he and his wife decided to move back closer to family and settled in Vermont where he bought an old paper mill building that now houses his studio and gallery, creating and selling his own work. He continues taking classes at Corning Museum and is always learning to improve his technique. He creates his own frit for some of the colors he uses. He showed a video on how he makes his "Good Luck" paperweight by layering with color and then "painting" the clover on the hot glass. Animals are his most popular selling pieces from the gallery. Whenever he needs cutting done on a paperweight, Jim Poore does the work. In July of 2017 Chris had his furnace blow up. It is something no glass artist wants to have happen. He opened the furnace at 2300 degrees and the elements blew up. They had to quickly get as much of the melted

glass out as could be saved. They repaired the crucible and now it is stronger and better than ever. Chris talked about "Kids Design" glass project that he is involved with where once a year kids design on paper what they would like to see made out of glass and fifteen to twenty glass artists gather together to choose from the designs and make the items. It is a charity fund raiser.



The Lights are Dimmed for Chris Sherwin's Presentation

He is very happy to be involved also with Spirit Pieces.com. It is a company that has about 25 artists involved in taking the ashes of loved ones and creating paperweights with these ashes inside. It started when someone's friend died and people wanted pieces made with the ashes to remember him. Chris makes about 10 to 12 paperweight pieces for them a week. There are 9 or so designs to choose from. They include about a teaspoon of ash in the paperweight. Working on these pieces is very special to him. The talk from Chris was very informative and interesting. Another side of him we learned about is that he brews his own beer and he plays in a local classic rock band.



Watching the Action, the Bauerfelds and Mikelbergs

Lunch was served and enjoyed by all. The salad was very tasty and the entrees were devoured happily by all. The dessert of cheese cake with strawberries was spectacular.

After lunch, we all delighted in the raffle. Because there were only 26 of us there, everyone, I think, went home with a prize. There was a great variety to choose from.



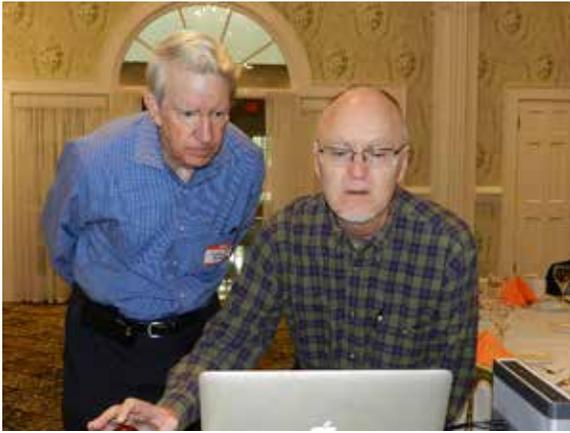
Newsletter Editor Toby Hawley with Acting Secretaries Dorothy Disney & Audrey Smit

The afternoon business meeting was called to order by John Hawley. We received a beautiful, contemporary paperweight from Ben Silver of Bendini Glass to be auctioned off. We had awarded him the 2018 Stitt Memorial grant and received the paperweight as a thank you. It was from his "Electric Bloom" series. All the money from this auction went back into the Grant Fund. After the business meeting was completed the winner of the auction was announced. It went to Reece Ewing for \$225.00. Thank you, Reece.



DVPCA Members Lee Arnold, David Graeber, & Neal Demp

Phil Edelman, PCA President, gave an update on the next PCA Convention that will be held in Dearborn, Michigan. Registration cost will be the same as recent prior conventions. There will be a bus to the Ford Museum. He thinks there will also be a French paperweight artist and an artist from Scotland. There will be a special exhibit of Antique paperweights to delight the eye. Phil also announced, to everyone's disappointment, that this will be the last convention he will be in charge of. He is retiring as President after this one.



Jeopardy Judges John Hawley & Lee Arnold

Don Formigli announced we were losing money lately on our meetings. We pay for at least 30 people no matter how many people we have in attendance. Lately we have had less than 30 at our meetings. Today we only had 26. If possible we should be looking for more new members or invite a friend to the meeting.



St. Louis Table Contestants - Winners of Paperweight Jeopardy

Our next meeting will be in January at the Buck Hotel with Leo Kaplan as our guest dealer.

Our afternoon entertainment was Paperweight Jeopardy, created by Neal Demp with Lee Arnold close at hand. Lee was the game host and judge and Neal asked the questions. John Hawley was also asked to be a judge. We had three teams - St. Louis, Clichy, and Baccarat. Neal did an excellent job on asking very informative and tricky questions. Each team had their own buzzer. We had quite a few ties to be broken but at the end of an exciting, nail biting competition, the winner of the game was St. Louis, with Clichy coming in second and Baccarat third. There were lots of sighs and disappointed faces throughout the game, but lots of laughing and surprised answers also. Great job and many thanks to Neal and Lee.

Respectfully submitted, Audrey Smit, Acting Secretary
Photography by Diane Atkerson

2019 Barbara Stitt Memorial Grant

The Barbara Stitt Memorial Grant for 2019 has been awarded to Christopher Sherwin of Bellows Falls, Vermont. This grant, made in the amount of \$1500, will enable him to attend Victor Trabucco's class on "Paperweight Techniques and Inclusions" at the Corning Museum of Glass this January. Congratulations to Chris and we look forward to new and great things from him in the near future.

DVPGA

David Graeber Winter Meeting Guest Artist

David Graeber's stories in glass have evolved over time, but one fact, his love of nature, remains constant. Many of David's creations celebrate the memory of a loved one or the joy of a special event. All capture nature's elegance and remarkable diversity. New Jersey, the "Garden State" and home of our nation's first National Reserve, the million-acre Pinelands, continues to serve as a living laboratory for him.

A life-long "Jerseyman," he has honed his craft under the watchful eye of teachers, mentors, and friends including the late George Vail who introduced him to the world of architectural reconstruction and forensic sculpture, William "Bill" Marlin, Ed.D., teacher and painter, Paul Stankard with whom he worked and who encouraged him to strike out on his own in 2009, and the late Ed Poore, master cutter whose skill has enhanced several of his paperweights.

DVPGA

Guest Afternoon Speaker Gay LeCleire Taylor

Gay LeCleire Taylor, a longtime member of DVPCA, will be the afternoon speaker at our January meeting. Her presentation will be "Letters from Winfield Rutter to John Degenhart 1942 to 1948." She is the Former Director/Curator of the Museum of American Glass at the WheatonArts and Cultural Center.

*Happy New
Year 2019!*

PCA Convention 2019

The PCA Convention in Dearborn, MI is the must go-to event of 2019. It will be held May 15-18, and Wednesday, the first day, will feature a tour of the Henry Ford Museum. The international group of speakers includes some familiar names as well as newcomers, and according to Phil Edelman, President of PCA, they come from "the United States, Great Britain, France, and far off New Jersey." Friday will be spent at the Flint Institute of Arts where seven artists will be performing demonstrations creating paperweights to be auctioned off later. Fourteen hours of the Dealers Fair over three days will give you plenty of time to be tempted to add to your collection. If all that weren't enough, there will be two outstanding paperweight exhibits, one of antique weights and the other of vintage Whitefriar paperweights. PCA Convention headquarters is The Henry, Autograph Collection, in Dearborn. Rooms are now available at the convention rate of \$145 per night, from May 10-22, 2019. The room rate includes complimentary internet and self parking. Reservations can now be made via the internet at <https://bit.ly/2xmpTlk> or by phone at 1-888-709-8081. I hope to see many DVPCA members there.

CALENDAR

Advance Meeting Dates, Guests and Related Events

April 13, 2019

Guest Dealer: L. H. Selman Ltd.

Guest Artist: Craig Deacons (tentative)

Location: Philmont Country Club

PCA, Inc. Convention

May 15 – 18, 2019

Dearborn, MI

July 20, 2019

Guest Dealer: Bill Pitt

Guest Artist: Ken Rosenfeld

Location: Philmont Country Club

October 19, 2019

Guest Dealer: TBA

Guest Artist: TBA

Location: Philmont Country Club

SAVE THESE DATES AND PLAN TO ATTEND!



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Winter Meeting Announcement Saturday, January 26, 2019

At The Buck Hotel, 1200 Buck Road,
Feasterville, PA 19053
Tel: (215) 396-2002

From the east:

PA Turnpike I-276W, take exit 351 onto US-1S/
Lincoln Hwy towards Philadelphia. Take the PA 132
W/Street Road exit. Merge onto E Street Road/PA-
132. Turn right onto PA-532/Bustleton Pike. Turn left
onto Buck Road/PA-532, Buck Hotel is on left.

From the west:

East Street Road/PA-132 to left on PA-532/Bustleton
Pike. Turn left onto Buck Road/P-532, Buck Hotel is
on left.

9:00 AM Dealers and Artist setup

10:00 AM Paperweight Fair with Guest Dealer
Leo Kaplan Ltd. and Guest Artist David
Graeber

11:00 AM Presentation by Guest Artist
David Graeber

12 Noon Lunch and Raffle Sales

1:00 PM Business Meeting - Announcements and
Reports

1:15 PM Raffle

1:30 PM Presentation by Gay LeCleire Taylor -
"Letters from Winfield Rutter to John
Degenhart"

2:45 PM Paperweight Fair continues

DVPGA



*Creating at the Torch,
Guest Artist
David Graeber*



*Paperweight with Lemons
by David Graeber*

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

JANUARY 26, 2019

The Buck Hotel

Luncheon Choices @ \$30 per person*

*Luncheon includes an appetizer and dessert

_____ (#) Chicken Marsala with Wild
Mushrooms

_____ (#) Salmon Filet with Brandy Lobster
Sauce

_____ (#) eggplant Parmesan with Penne Pasta

\$ _____ Luncheon Total

Names _____

***Please mail this tear off slip with your
selections and check to:***

DVPCA

c/o Don Formigli, Treasurer
455 Stonybrook Drive
Levittown, PA 19055

NO LATER THAN JANUARY 21, 2019



Address Service Requested

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