



The Paperweight Chase

Newsletter of the Paperweight Collectors Association, Ontario, Canada

Number 13

September 2008

Update from April 5, 2008 Meeting

Attendees welcomed spring with updates from their winter holidays, acquisitions from spring auctions, and most recent paperweight finds. Show & Tell was spotlighted. The members extend their thanks again to Marcia for her hospitality.

The presenter, Rick Willson, an avid collector of Toronto books and memorabilia, shared some of his collection of paperweights and reference work in a presentation, '*Souvenir & Advertising Paperweights with a Toronto Connection*'.

Jane & Ken Wright reported on their travels and attendance at the PCA Texas meeting in Houston. They have joined as active members in that club. Featured at the PCA Texas meeting was artist Cathy Richardson. Nancy Alfano, owner of Portia Paperweights, drove all the way from Chicago to Houston in order to present Cathy to the Texas group.

There was some discussion regarding the recent Toronto Waddington's auction. It has been some time since we have seen a number of lots of paperweights for sale together. In total, 25 lots were sold, all of which were contemporary weights (no antiques) from the 1970's-1980's. The Bronson's and the Willson's attended and were successful in obtaining some lots away from local dealers and international on-line bidders. Overall, winning bids were well above the catalogue estimates.

Update from June 7, 2008 Meeting

The meeting was held at the home of Tracy & Rick. Artist members, Virginia Wilson Toccalino and Tony Toccalino offered some of their new creations for sale. Paperweight reference books, paperweight auction catalogs, and PCA Annual Bulletins from John Gooderham's personal collection were offered to the members attending.

Update from August 16, 2008 BBQ

Members enjoyed a delightful afternoon at Stephanie & Etienne's home. Many thanks for everyone's contributions in making this a successful event again this year. New members, Barbara & Don Erdman, attending their first meeting, were welcomed by the group.

There was a quiz arranged by Rick. The answers were far-ranging but Etienne came 'closest' and, through the luck of the draw, won a paperweight reference book for his collection. Members also had an opportunity to bid on some silent auction items donated by John Gooderham's daughter.

Wheaton Arts Paperweight Fest, May 14-17, 2008

Congratulations to the Delaware Valley Paperweight Collectors Association and the staff of Wheaton Arts Center for another successful paperweight event in Millville, NJ. There were approximately 150 collectors (including some from UK, Germany, Canada), plus dealers and artists present for the three-day schedule of seminars, presentations, artist demonstrations, hands-on events, dinners and displays. Nine members of PCA Ontario were in attendance. The public was also invited to attend on the last full day of programs. We again look forward to future fests.

Dan McNamara, Long-Time Paperweight Dealer

We were sadly informed of the passing of Dan McNamara on July 31st. His wife, Therese, has sent along these words

Dear Friends,

I was truly overwhelmed by the outpouring of your kind expressions of sympathy and support at Dan's passing. Please pass along to your members my heartfelt thanks for their caring thoughts and prayers that have been a wonderful source of comfort and strength for me and our daughter Teri. Your friendship over the years meant the world to Dan, and I will always treasure it.

*With grateful thanks,
Therese McNamara*

PCA Texas Fundraiser

PCA Texas has always been a leader with ideas for raising funds. Their latest offering is custom designed playing cards with pictures of two magnificent paperweights on colorful backgrounds. These professional quality cards are bridge size and have regular index fonts.

One deck features a Parabelle checker in brilliant red on a sky blue background – the other features a similar Parabelle checker on a lime green background. Cards are available in single or double sued boxes. The price is \$15.00 (US) for double decks and \$8.00 (US) for single decks. They make great gifts for friends and family as well as other paperweight collectors.

To order, indicate your preference for single or double. Add on a shipping charge of \$5.00. Please make your cheque payable to: Paperweight Collectors of Texas, Inc. Mail to: Jayne Gilbert, 3918 Colquitt St., Houston, TX 77027.

Reminder for PCA Annual Dues

If you have not already done so, please forward your membership dues for PCA Ontario (period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009).

Thank you.

Steven Lundberg - (1953-2008)

We were saddened to hear of the passing of artist Steven Lundberg on April 12, 2008 ending his long struggle against ALS. He will be truly missed by his friends in the paperweight community.

Recently, we found a poem attributed to Steven tucked inside a book that had once belonged to John Gooderham. Perhaps Steven presented this at one of the PCA events years ago. We'd like to share it with you

CONFESSION TO AN OBSESSION

Confession they say is good for the soul.
Well, I must confess, "I've lost control".
For what began as a simple possession,
Has become for me, a mad obsession.
Who would have known I possessed the traits,
To become possessed by paperweights!
How did all this madness start?
I was given a weight by Paul Ysart.
From that very first piece, I knew right away,
That I'd collect weights until my dying day.
So I began in earnest to build my collection.
Money was no object when I made a selection.
I bought two of this, a few of that,
From Clichy, St. Louis, and Baccarat.
Each weight was unique, and they each told a story,
Using flowers, birds, fish, or just millefiori.
I traveled the world searching, from Paris to Murano.
(Though I found nothing quite as good as a good Tarsitano.)
I visited all the factories, from Caithness to Venini,
(Although I still much preferred a faceted Buzzini).
I tracked down every artist, every gaffer who worked with fire,
From the West Coast Lundberg Studios, to Scotland's Perthshire.
From the botanicals of Stankard, to the birds of Rick Ayotte,
To the fancy cut Banfords, (or anything else they got)!
I loaded up on Rosenfelds, bought Grubbs by the score.
As soon as I'd bought a Trabucco, I'd return and buy two more.
Gordon Smith weights found a home, and so did those of Lotton,
But my home was running out of spots, for all the weights I'd gotten.
My family thought I was crazy, their stares cold as ice.
My wife threatened to leave me, unless I sought professional advice.
So I went to see a psychiatrist, to see what he could do.
But he wasn't any help you see, because he was a collector too!
So now my wife has left me, gone to her sister's protection.
I don't miss her all that much. I still have my collection!
And to all my friends who never call, I leave them to their fates.
Who needs friend? In the end, I still have my paperweights.

Steven Lundberg

PCA Bi-Annual Convention in Toledo, Ohio (May 20-23, 2009)

Please mark your calendars for the PCA Convention next year. We want to make plans for a large turnout of Canadian collectors. Toledo is a mere 5-hour drive from Toronto. Let's start now to discuss our travel plans for the group.

The 2009 PCA Convention will be held from May 20-23, 2009 in Toledo, Ohio and will be based at the:

Crowne Plaza Hotel
Two Seagate
444 N. Summit Street
Toledo, OH 43604

PCA Inc. has negotiated a \$119 (US) per night rate for the convention.

The hotel, which has just completed a total renovation, is now accepting reservations for the convention. Call the hotel directly (1-419-241-1411) or the Crowne's toll-free number (1-877-2-Crowne).

Be sure to mention PCA Inc. when making your reservation.

We have not seen the PCA Inc. programme lineup as yet but will pass that along to you as soon as it is made available. The Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) was founded April 18, 1901. In 1969, the TMA was the first museum to have a studio built specifically for teaching glass-working techniques. In 2006, the TMA opened the postmodern Glass Pavillion which houses their world-renowned glass collection featuring more than 5,000 works of art from ancient to contemporary times. In the demonstration area, you can sit in the gallery to watch free demos and learn of the process and techniques used. Visit the TMA website at www.toledomuseum.org

Glasfax Meeting in Wallaceburg

In June, Tracy and Rick Willson attended a weekend Glasfax Conference in Wallaceburg, Ontario. Glasfax is an association of glass enthusiasts, collectors and researchers. Our member, Jamie McDougall, was one of speakers/organizers. His topic (and also his passion) is for paperweights made in the Wallaceburg factory – a number of which he was able to acquire on behalf of the Wallaceburg & District Museum. Among the museum exhibits are glass canes, whimsys, swans, hammers, bells, paperweights, chains, swords and commercial glass produced at the Dominion Glass Company (Libbey St. Clair) and the Wallaceburg Cut Glass Factory. The museum also houses displays of local Wallaceburg factories which thrived from the mid-1800's due to its location on the navigable inland waterways. You may visit the museum website at www.kent.net/wallaceburg-museum.

Useful paperweight website: Provides links to websites for dealers, artists, eBay auctions, paperweight books, on-line collections, clubs and others.

www.paperweight-mall.com

PCA Membership Application (please print)

Date _____

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____

Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone _____

email _____

Annual Fees
PCA Ontario, Canada

July 1 (current year) - June 30 (following year)

- Single Membership \$20.00
- Couple \$30.00
- Mailings only \$15.00

Cheque payable to:
Paperweight Collectors Association - Ontario

Mail Application to:

Paperweight Collectors Association - Ontario
1701 – 1320 Islington Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M9A 5C6
Canada

Phone: (416) 239-8733
email: twillson@sympatico.ca

Paperweight Collectors Association
Ontario, Canada

www.pcaont.ca

1701 – 1320 Islington Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M9A 5C6
Phone: 416-239-8733

E-mail: twillson@sympatico.ca
www.paperwts.ca

Tracy Willson, President	416-239-8733
Marcia Whittaker, VP & Treasurer	416-967-4570
Ken Wright, Past President	519-621-7990
Claire Jobin	416-368-7875
Rick Willson	416-239-8733
Jane Wright	519-621-7990