

# The Paperweight Chase

Newsletter of the Paperweight Collectors Association, Ontario, Canada

Number 19 www.pcaont.ca April 2012

#### 2012 Spring Meeting, Sunday, April 15th

The first meeting of the year was hosted again by Marcia. The meeting was well-attended and, given the attendance, it seems that the Sunday choice received general approval.

Thank you to Wes Clark, President of the PCA Illinois who supplied a copy of his new children's book, *The Paperweight Keeper*, for our door prize. He wrote the story for his granddaughter, Lexi, and it was published by Paperweight Press. Copies are available through L.H. Selman. Susan Armstrong, who received a copy as a door prize, has graciously re-gifted it to our Lending Library for the time being.

As usual, members brought along weights for Show & Tell. There was a presentation, a quiz, door prizes and time to visit with paperweight friends.

## Paperweight Fest 2012, Millville NJ, Wheaton Village

This year's Paperweight Fest will be held at Wheaton Village May 31-June 1-June 2, 2012.

The Museum of American Glass, on site at Wheaton Village, will be featuring a Rick Ayotte exhibit.

The artist lineup for the Lunch & Learn sessions includes Colin Richardson, Damon MacNaught, Erik Hansen, Drew Ebelhare & Sue Fox, David Graeber, Gordon Smith, Clinton Smith and Chris Sherwin.

Demonstrations in the Glass Studio will include torch and tank background techniques – Jasper, marbrie, latticinio, muslin, color, frontal & reverse pickups, and Whitefriars style of encasement.

Speakers this year include Susan Grogan & Gay LeCleire Taylor, Gordon Park, John Hawley, Paul Dunlop, Xavier Simon, and Ben & Mitch Clark.

There will be an opportunity (limited attendance) for you to work one-on-one in millefiori with Jim Brown or Drew Ebelhare or to share a flameworking experience with Melissa Ayotte, David Graeber or Gordon Smith. Your setups will be professionally encased. Time with the artist will be 1½ hours. For the regular Make-Your-Own-Paperweight program, a selection of Whitefriars, LOVE and HOPE picture murine will be available.

During the three-day Fest, there will be Dealers' Fairs, banquet, raffle and door prizes along with an opportunity for you to get together with other paperweight collectors and artists.

#### PCA, Inc. 2013 Convention Location Announced

The Board of Directors has announced that the Convention Site Committee has unanimously selected New Orleans, LA as the site for the 2013 Convention. The last time the Convention was held in 'The Big Easy', as New Orleans is otherwise known, was in 1983. The Board will be working hard to ensure that this convention tops that of 1983 and will be one of the most memorable to date.

We will apprise you of additional program information when further details are made available.

# Art Institute of Chicago Expands its Paperweight Collection, Summer 2012

-Art Institute of Chicago press release

The Art Institute of Chicago is pleased to announce the expansion of its gallery dedicated to the Arthur Rubloff Collection of paperweights. The new presentation, made possible by generous support from the International Paperweight Society Foundation and L.H. Selman, Ltd., along with the involvement of the family of Wes Clark, will increase the number of paperweights on view and allow for a more expansive and accessible display of the works.

The gallery expansion project will increase the number of paperweights currently on view, from 341 to more than 800. Eight new wall cases, along with a new pedestal case, will be installed, all to highlight a larger selection from the Rubloff Paperweight Collection. In addition, for the first time, a dedicated will feature a fine selection of contemporary paperweight design. The expanded gallery is slated to open to the public in late summer 2012.

"The paperweight collection of Arthur Rubloff is one of the finest in the world," said Christopher Monkhouse, Eloise W. Martin Chair and Curator, Dept. of European Decorative Arts at the Art Institute. The Rubloff Collection is recognized as one of three premier collections in the world; the others are housed in the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, New York, and the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Arthur Rubloff (1902-1983) was born in Duluth, Minnesota, and moved to Chicago at age 17 to pursue a career in real estate. By 1929, Rubloff had founded his own real estate firm, which is known for a number of development projects in Chicago, including the Magnificent Mile, the Carl Sandburg Village, and the Evergreen Plaza shopping center. He was also a dedicated philanthropist, contributing to such institutions as the University of Chicago Hospitals, Northwestern University Law School, and the Art Institute.

Rubloff was among the first generation of twentieth-century collectors to rediscover paperweights of the mid-nineteenth century, known as the Classic period. He made his first purchases in 1947 as gifts for his partner, who had a small collection, but Rubloff soon became fascinated with the objects himself, as did a growing number of collectors who gathered under the umbrella of the

Paperweight Collectors Association, founded in 1953. Famous collectors included the American writer Truman Capote, who wrote that the paperweight was like "some fragment of a dream." Rubloff eventually amassed a total of 1,472 paperweights, of which 1,200 were donated to the Art Institute in 1978.

#### **Chicago Tribune Article**

Recently, an article published by Steve Johnson in the Chicago Tribune presented a strongly negative view critiquing the artistic value of the Art Institute of Chicago's Arthur Rubloff collection of glass paperweights, and slighting artists and collectors. The article was met an overwhelming response from Chicago paperweight lovers and others in the paperweight community.

It was abundantly clear that Mr. Johnson lacked the knowledge and acquired appreciation of the paperweight as an art form. And, the timing of his article is now in the past and the Rubloff Collection's expansion is going forward on a positive note. By now, given the huge backlash and the volume of responses, Mr. Johnson may now have a better appreciation of the subject.

### **PowerPoint Presentation of Special Exhibit**

We would like to thank PCA, Inc. and the efforts of Deb Zonies for distributing to all worldwide paperweight collectors associations copies of a PowerPoint presentation of the special exhibit of paperweights and paperweight related objects that were on loan by a PCA member during the PCA, Inc. convention in Washington 2011 (see the Annual Bulletin of the Paperweight Collectors Association, Inc., 2011, pg. 61).

#### PCA, Inc. Website

Visit the website <a href="http://www.paperweight.org">http://www.paperweight.org</a> for the Artist of the Month. Last month's profile featured American artist, Jim Brown, and an archive of previously featured artists.



Jim Brown concentric millefiori (2003) 3 5/8" dia.

#### **Definitions**

Setup. Arrangement of parts to be encased in a paperweight. Also a synonym for *motif*, the internal design, or subject matter of a paperweight.

Striae (also striations). Streaks or veins visible in glass, giving a sugary appearance. Flaw caused by improper melting of the glass batch, or by shaping a piece of crystal after it has cooled below a proper working temperature.

<u>Ref:</u> Dunlop, Paul H. The Dictionary of Glass Paperweights: An Illustrated Primer. Papier Presse, Statesville NC (2009)

#### PCA, Inc. on Facebook

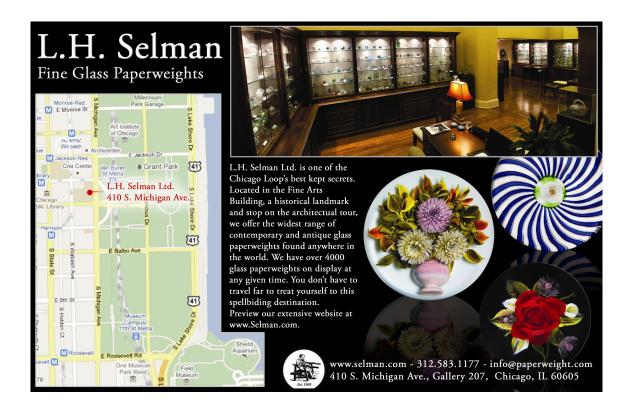
Join the nearly 1,500 paperweight lovers who follow the PCA on Facebook at <a href="http://www.facebook.com/PaperweightCollectors">http://www.facebook.com/PaperweightCollectors</a>. Read updates from the PCA and other paperweight-related news. Please feel free to add your comments/photos and share the page.



Could this be PCA Ontario's (future) youngest member?

# **PCA Ontario Meeting Schedule 2012**

Date	Event	
April 15, 2012	Meeting (hosted by Marcia)	
May 31-June 2, 2012	Paperweight Fest – Wheaton Village, Millville NJ	
June 10, 2012	Meeting (hosted by Marcia)	
August 12, 2012	Summer Meeting & BBQ (Cancelled)	
Sept. 28-30, 2012	Selman Paperweight Weekend, Chicago IL	
October 21, 2012	Meeting (hosted by Tracy & Rick)	
December 2, 2012	Winter Meeting & Holiday Social (hosted by Jean & Bill)	



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# **PCA Membership Application** (please print) Date Name\_\_\_\_ Name Address\_\_\_\_\_ City Prov Postal Code Country\_\_\_\_\_ email\_\_\_\_\_ **Annual Fees** PCA Ontario, Canada January 1 – December 31 \_\_ 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

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