

# The Paperweight Chase

Newsletter of the Ontario, Canada, Paperweight Collectors Association

Number 2

October 2002

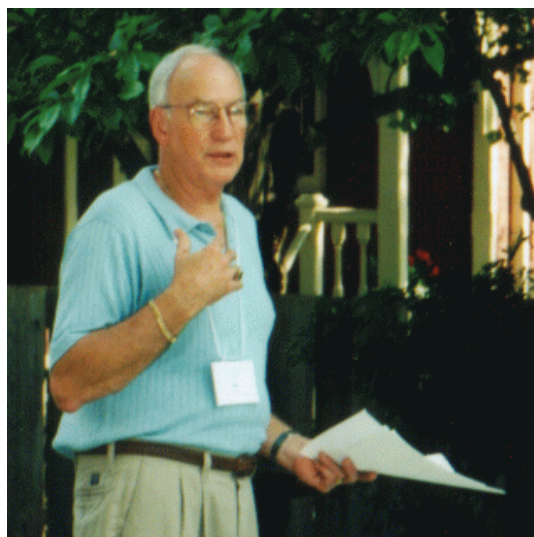
## BATES SPEAKS TO ONTARIO PCA

Al Bates, President of PCA Inc., and his wife Marion, travelled from Austin, Texas, to join the PCA Ontario group for their summer meeting. Ken and Jane Wright hosted the meeting and barbecue at their home in Cambridge, Ontario. It was a perfect summer afternoon, sunny and warm. Some of our far away members were also able to join the festivities, Darlene & Brian Hicks from Millington, Michigan and Jon & Annette Trabucco from Clarence, New York.

Al shared his interest in collecting Souvenir, Commemorative and Advertising weights with the members of our club. He brought some extraordinary pieces from his personal collection. He used them to illustrate the wide variety of souvenir weights that are available. He also talked about the various methods used to produce these weights. Al certainly inspired many of our members to take a second look at this area of paperweight collecting. These weights have captured pieces of history and nostalgia from our past.

Members shared their own examples in the *Show and Tell* portion. Some weights were commemorating an event, others were made to advertise products or services, and others were souvenir weights, all of these produced in a number of styles and techniques.

Al and Marion spent a few days sightseeing in Toronto and then travelled to Ottawa to meet the PCA Ontario members who live in Canada's Capital City. They then went on to Montreal before returning home to Texas via Buffalo.



Al Bates spent some time talking about the upcoming PCA Convention, which will be hosted by the Texas Club, in San Antonio, Texas, May 14-17, 2003. *(details available in another section of this newsletter)* This meeting marks the 50th anniversary of the PCA and many events are planned. The Texas Group will be displaying weights from their members' collections. The charming city of San Antonio has a large number of tourist attractions for pre and post excursions. Al invited members to attend, enjoy the paperweight talks and displays, mingle with other collectors and artists, and experience some true Texas hospitality. *Notes by Tracy Willson*

*Editor's Note: The book that Al Bates referred to during his talk is titled "Advertising paperweights, Figural, Glass and Metal", by Richard Holiner and Stuart Kammerman. The publisher is Collector Books, P.O. Box 3009, Paducah, KY, 42002-3009 <[www.collectorbooks.com](http://www.collectorbooks.com)>. The ISBN number is 1-57432-255-9.*

***Marion Bates Famous Texas Peanut Brittle*** *(She brought a delicious batch of this to the Barbecue)*

Stir together, in a 1 ½ quart casserole 1 cup sugar and ½ cup white corn syrup. Microwave at high 4 minutes. Stir in 1 cup of 'salted' roasted peanuts and microwave at high for 3 - 5 minutes, (until light brown). Add 1 teaspoon butter and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract and blend well, microwave 1 - 2 minutes. Add 1 teaspoon of baking

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soda and gently stir until foamy. Pour mixture onto lightly greased cookie sheet. Let cool. Break into small pieces and e

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### September Meeting Celebrates the English Glass Makers

The theme for the meeting was English Weights. Although Ken and Jane Wright were touring Western Canada and the USA, Ken had prepared handouts on glassmaking from the British glass houses. Tracy and Rick Willson provided a slide show to accompany Ken's presentation illustrating a number of features incorporated in the weights from the factories of Bacchus, Arculus, Walsh-Walsh, Nailsea, Bristol, Whitefriars, Islington and green glass dump weights from Kilners.

*Show and Tell* featured a number of antique and modern English pieces which were brought by members from their own collections. It is always interesting to hear the stories behind the "finds".

### Notes from October 19, 2002, South Western Ontario Fall Glass Tour

Heading out for the day's Glass Tour, the coach left Toronto to join other members and guests at Milton. On the way to Milton, members were shown a video "The World of Paperweight Masterpieces" from the Corning Museum of Glass which provided a brief history of paperweight making and examples from Corning's excellent collection of weights.

The first stop was *Galactic Art Glass* in Milton, the studio gallery of Virginia Wilson and her husband & partner, Tony Toccalino.

Tony led us through a studio tour and explained the equipment used in the production of their glass pieces. Virginia and Tony gave a live



There was time allowed for viewing the weights and books on display and, of course, time to socialize. Thanks to Marcia Whittaker for providing refreshments. *Notes by Tracy Willson*

produce complex glass canes. This was quite a demonstration - the thirty people were lined up from one end of the glass studio to the other and then right out into the retail shop. We were literally a couple of feet away from the action. After browsing the gallery and doing some serious shopping, the group set off for Elora.

On the way, box lunches prepared by Jane Wright and Dorothy Bronson, were enjoyed while "The Canes of Murano" video was shown. It was a pleasant trip on the back roads of mid-western Ontario, the weather cooperated, and the Ontario foliage provided a colourful backdrop.

The next event of the day was a very complicated glass making demonstration by Tim McManus of *Blown Away Glass*. Tim worked and



CA Group

Toronto: Brian Musselwhite, shows Al & Marion Bates part of the collection. Brian is Curator of Western Art & Culture and responsible for the Royal Ontario Museum Paperweight Collection.

talked us through this process while his wife, Katherine, assisted him in producing a large 'charger' plate

demonstration illustrating the steps required to

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which gave the group a whole new level of appreciation for pieces created by very talented glass artists. Following his demo, and after answering lots of questions, the group had an opportunity to walk around Blown Away Gallery and do more shopping.



On the way to *The Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery* in Waterloo, Ken played a video produced by the Corning Museum of Glass, "Cane Working with Lino Tagliapietra". As we drove through these tidy, well looked after farm lands, on our way to Waterloo, we caught a

*Elora: Tim McManus, Blown Away Glass, with wife & partner Katherine, in their studio.*

glimpse of old-fashion Mennonite life as a horse drawn buggy passed by our coach.

At the gallery, Glenn Allison, the gallery's Curator and Director, welcomed the group and took the time to provide a tour of one of the current exhibitions, and to provide a presentation on Manitoba glass artist, Ione Thorkelsson. Glenn showed slides of some of Ione's work, and outlined her plans to bring an exciting glass exhibit from Manitoba to the gallery. Glenn will notify the group when Ione's exhibit is to be displayed. Before boarding the coach for the return trip, we were treated to a cheese and wine reception with time to socialize and talk with Glenn Allison. Several prizes were drawn and time was spent in the gallery shop. It was a most enjoyable day. Thanks to members and guests who participated.

### Denise Belanger-Taylor

We sent a copy of the first PCA newsletter to the New Zealand Club and received a great reply  
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from John & Shirley Miles. John is the President and Shirley is the newsletter Editor. They said "To help keep your newsletter going, we are happy for you to reproduce any of our articles which may be of interest." So, here's a precis from two of their articles about Denise Belanger-Taylor, Canadian glass artist, now living in New Zealand.

Denise and Stephen live and have their studio at 1032 Te Moana Road, Geraldine. Her work is presently on display at The Form Gallery in Christchurch.

The workshop displayed saleable work on one side and the working area on the other. Stephen (B-T) arrived a short time later, when all the technicalities of the huge installations were seriously discussed. Stephen designed and installed an excellent furnace, giving priority to simplicity, which he says has created cost efficiency - a major small-business necessity.

Denise makes a wide range of glass items: landscape rondels, her "fossil" series, perfume bottles, glass sculptures and, of course paperweights. A unique technique Denise has developed is to use a metal wire to form lines of small bubbles in the glass. Controlling the temperature controls the vaporization of the wire and the number and size of bubbles produced. The bubbles have a green sheen from the deposition of metal on the inside. One new series of glass artworks is the kina (sea urchin), a delightful hollow glass interpretation of the shape and colours of kina.

Delicious sweet meats and large grapes were offered as we scanned the shelves for that important "piece". Decisions - it took some time but finally we all made a personal choice.

*Editors note: For those of you who remember Denise from her days in Prince Edward County, Ontario, and wish to write to her, here is the address: Denise Belanger-Taylor, 1032 Te Moana Road, RD 21, Geraldine, New Zealand, 8751. Phone (03) 693 9041.*



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The Membership Committee and Board of Directors of PCA Inc. are pleased to announce that members new to the association in 2003, and those who refer new members, will be eligible for a drawing for a beautiful Robert Banford paperweight. The drawing will be held at the May 2003 PCA Inc. Convention in San Antonio. Basic Membership outside the USA is \$35.00US. (About \$54.00 Cdn.) It includes 4 newsletter per year and reduced fees for the every other year Convention. It will keep you in touch with the world of Paperweights. (An application form is included with this newsletter)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Brocklebank Paperweight Lecture: The Artistry of Rick Ayotte

One of the world's most renowned paperweight artists, Rick Ayotte, presents the ROM with his latest masterpiece. The Museum commissioned this paperweight with support from the J.A.H Brocklebank Fund. Mr Ayotte's slide lecture documents the making of his paperweight and will intrigue anyone interested in the creative process. Rick Ayotte is a master paperweight artist.

Members of the Paperweight Collectors Association and Glasfax, please call the Program Department at (416) 586 5797 to receive special program price. Members \$18.00 General Public \$20.00

### Last Minute News - PCA Ontario

26 PCA Ontario members got together for the Christmas Social event of the year at Helen Carothers home in North York. "Show & Tell" was an opportunity for everyone to talk about the favourite weight they had picked up in the past year. This was followed by wine & food. *Thanks to our Host, Helen Carothers; Art Jobin for the Wine; everyone who contributed goodies & helped Dorothy Bronson who organized the food.*

Chris Buzzini is now marketing his own paperweights and can be reached at [cbuzz@bctonline.com](mailto:cbuzz@bctonline.com)

or, 15661 S. Lammer Road, Oregon City, OR, USA, 97045. website at [www.buzziniglass.com](http://www.buzziniglass.com)

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## PCA Ontario 2003 Dates

**Toronto:** March 29; April 19; June 21;  
August 16; October 4; November 22.  
**Ottawa:** April 12; September 20

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### *Details about the 2003 PCA Convention*

*Dates:* May 14 - 17, 2003

*Place:* Adams Mark Hotel, San Antonio, Texas

*Address:* 111 Pecan Street East,  
San Antonio, TX USA 78205  
210-354-2800

*Toll Free:* 1-800-444-2326

FAX 210-354-2700

*Rates:* Single \$139.00 US

Double \$149.00

Triple \$159.00 - Quad \$169.00

*The Convention Application will be ready on or about January 15, 2003. If you'd like a copy contact Emily Kak, the PCA Administrative Assistant at 336-869-2769. Or, PCA Inc., PMB 130, 274 Eastchester Drive, #117, High Point N.C. USA, 27262, or at [www.paperweight.org](http://www.paperweight.org)*

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*Elora: PCA Ontario Fall 2002 Coach Tour*

### Ontario Paperweight Collectors Association

18 Lansdowne Road North,  
Cambridge, Ontario, Canada, N1S 2S8  
Phone 519.621.7990 Fax 519.740.8616  
e:mail <janeken@rogers.com>

#### The Executive:

Ken Wright, President	519.621.7990
Claire Jobin, Treasurer	416.368.7875
Tracy Willson, Secretary	416.921.9586
Jack Bronson,	519.623.2942
Marcia Whittaker	416.967.4570
Garry Stearns	613.258.3661
Jane Wright	519.621.7990



