



# The Paperweight Chase

Newsletter of the Paperweight Collectors Association, Ontario, Canada

Number 20

[www.pcaont.ca](http://www.pcaont.ca)

September 2012

## **2012 Summer Meeting, Sunday, June 10th**

We would like to extend our appreciation to Marcia for hosting this meeting.

The business portion of the meeting was followed by several presentations. The first presentation featured a slideshow presentation of photos from a visit made by Rick and Tracy to the Flint Institute of Arts in Flint, Michigan. Following was a report on a visit to the Akron Art Museum and of the Paperweight Fest in Millville, New Jersey.

Other agenda items included profiles of four featured artists: the work of Clinton Smith, Damon MacNaught, Colin Richardson and Chris Sherwin.

Handouts included 'Museums with Paperweights' from the International Paperweight Society website and reference material for Elodie Holmes, Liquid Light Glass, Santa Fe NM. Members are reminded that museums frequently change their exhibits and it is always a good idea to check in advance that the paperweights will be on display.

Along with a good number of 'Show & Tell' weights brought along by members, Kris had some paperweights for sale.

## **Flint Institute of Arts Paperweight Exhibit**

The design of the exhibit was beautifully conceived. Kathryn Sharbaugh, Assistant Director of Development, met with us and personally guided us. Kathryn had been the curator for decorative arts at the time the exhibit was planned. Although not an expert in paperweights, she agreed to design the exhibition. All the walls were tilted – and the weights were mounted directly!

The original pieces had been donated by Mrs. Viola Bray. Her husband, who was a lawyer for General Motors, had no interest in decorative arts. It was Mrs. Bray who travelled, researched, collected and documented. She especially admired paperweights and works of glass, collecting hundreds of fine examples. Her travels to the East Coast and Europe gave her opportunities to collect.

Viola Bray died in 1961. Her set of ten French tapestries became the centerpiece of the collection she donated to the FIA and the gallery she established along with the Bray Charitable Trust which continues to care for the precious collection of art which she gave to the people of Flint. Her daughter and son-in-law donated the paperweights – antique ones.

This exhibit contained more than 200 weights. The antique weights were from Mrs. Bray and the contemporary weights were loaned by a collector in the Flint area along with contemporary examples from L.H. Selman and individual artists directly.

The exhibit will ended June 17, 2012. After that, the plan is to house 60 weights on permanent exhibit, both contemporary and antique. The permanent exhibit will rotate pieces from the FIA collection.

### **Akron Art Museum Exhibit of Paul Stankard Works**

The Akron Art Museum has sixty-four Paul Stankard pieces, thirty-two of which are on permanent display. This is probably the largest Stankard collection which features pieces from the early years as well as his later creations. We were not permitted to take photographs.

### **Paperweight Fest 2012, Millville NJ, Wheaton Arts**

This year's Paperweight Fest was held May 31-June 2 at Wheaton Arts (previously Wheaton Village).

The number of attendees totaled 117, only 6 of whom were international (from Germany, Peter Pomerence and Monika Flemming; from Scotland, Peter MacDougall and his wife Catherine; and from Canada, Rick and Tracy Willson).

The Museum of American Glass, on site at Wheaton Village, featured The Gordon Park Collection, a Rick Ayotte exhibit. Collector and PCA member, Gordon Park of Hixson TN has been collecting Rick's weights since 1995. His first purchase was the Ayotte Peony weight from a visit to the Kaplans where he was looking for French and English cameos. He is now considered a noted expert on Ayotte, having amassed more than 750 pieces. The *Artistry of Rick Ayotte* exhibit will run through October 14<sup>th</sup> this year. The retrospective exhibit features over 100 paperweights and paperweight related objects. Both Rick and his wife, Clara, commented that they did not recall some of the weights that Gordon has. Rick Ayotte's work is inspired by nature. In addition to his birds, Rick is also known for his exquisite roses, seascapes, pond scenes and fruit. He is the only artist to have mastered the creation of a quadruple weight. Filled with pink, red and white roses, the weight is entitled "Rose Quadruple".

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

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

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

There was an opportunity (limited attendance and prior registration) 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. The setups were encased and finished.

For the regular Make-Your-Own-Paperweight program, a selection of Whitefriars, LOVE and HOPE picture murine were available.

In the glasshouse, we watched a live demonstration where Gordon Smith and David Graeber made a collaborative piece together – one side cranberries, the other side blueberries – both sides were merged together and placed on a footed pedestal. Mayauel Ward attempted a large vase which turned into something else. All the glasshouse objects were auctioned off at great prices, even before the pieces were annealed.

Master glass artist, Paul J. Stankard, was present on Saturday afternoon in the Event Center to do a book signing. The two most recent publications: *Beauty Beyond Nature: The Glass Art of Paul Stankard* published by The Robert M. Minkoff Foundation, and another written by Paul, himself: *No Green Berries or Leaves: The Creative Journey of an Artist in Glass*.

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

Five beautiful paperweights were raffled off:

- Rick Ayotte. Blush magnum bouquet of red, white and pink roses. (Value \$2,400).
- Sue Fox and Drew Ebelhare. Open concentric millefiori with lampwork flower. 2.75" dia. (Value \$700).
- James and Nontas Kontes. Single and six-faceted piedouche basket with three stylized flowers and three buds, signature canes. 3" dia. (Value \$4,000).
- Colin Richardson. "Odontoglossums" Orange and black orchids with roots, pseudobulbs, and arcing leaves on cut bamboo. 3.375" dia. (Value \$1,200).
- Paul Stankard. Bouquet: Flowers and Fruit Orb. Pink tea roses, yellow pineland pickerel weed, blueberries and fruit with berries. 3.75" dia. (Value \$5,500).

There was a heightened level of excitement at the banquet when the raffle winners were announced. Unfortunately, none of the winners were in attendance that evening.

### **PCA Ontario Exhibit at Upper Canada Village**

Upper Canada Village is hosting "The World of Glass Weekend", Sept. 22-23, 2012 in Morrisburg, Ontario. PCA Ontario volunteers will be on site with an educational display for the two-day event featuring the unique world of glass paperweights from the 1850's through to present day.

Thank you to L.H. Selman for the loan of a variety of rods and canes to be included in the exhibit.

## **PCA, Inc. Convention, New Orleans, June 5-8, 2013**

The 2013 Convention will be in New Orleans. It opens on Wednesday evening, June 5 with an artists' reception, and closes on Saturday, June 8 with a banquet. The Convention hotel is the Astor Crowne Plaza located at 739 Canal Street at the corner of Canal and Bourbon Streets in the French Quarter.

The special PCA Convention room rate will be \$165 per night, and will be applicable June 1-11. Room reservations can be made later this fall. Please note that, when making your reservation, you will be required to pay a (refundable) first night's deposit.

One of the largest displays ever of Russian paperweight objects will be on display at the Convention. Arranged by PCA Board VP Phil Edelman, the grouping of objects will include both paperweights and plaques. Alan Thornton will guide our tour through this seldom seen area of paperweight making.

Further information on both reservations and program plans will be posted as soon as it becomes available.

## **Do Your Research**

It always is helpful to know a good weight when you see it.....

This unsigned Paul Ysart butterfly weight was found by one of our members in a Florida collectibles mall. It was priced and identified as a Murano weight.



And this find is a rare one! It is an exquisite Clichy with a rare yellow rose cane. It was found by one of our members at a local Sunday Flea Market.



## PCA Ontario Lending Library

A reminder to everyone – there is a wealth of information out there. Our inventory of available publications now numbers 86 titles. Borrowing is absolutely free to all members. A list of titles is given on our PCA Ontario website at <http://www.pcaont.ca> or contact Rick or Tracy Willson.

## American Paperweight Circle: A New Paperweight Group

Founded by Dean Six, Executive Director of the Museum of American Glass in West Virginia, this group is dedicated to educating and networking collectors of American paperweights, both antique and modern. The first meeting was held in March with a second meeting scheduled for next year.

In Weston, West Virginia, The Museum of American Glass in West Virginia received a donation of paperweights and associated glass from the Degenhart Paperweight and Glass Museum in Ohio. The museum is located in a former J.C. Penney store. It houses a library, research center, museum shop, and more than 12,000 items on exhibit with an additional 20,000 items in storage. The items range from flint glass, tools, and paperweights to cameo glass. The museum is in the final fundraising stage for a two-storey addition for accessioning, work space, and classroom space for leaded/stained glass and flamework classes. An extensive website, <http://www.magwv.com>, describes the museum's facilities and programs.

## PCA, Inc. Website

Visit the website <http://www.paperweight.org> for the Artist of the Month. July's featured artist was John Deacons. Clinton Smith and Jeff Mentuck were profiled in June and May.

Go to the website to view an archive of previously featured artists.

### Definitions

**Basket, millefiori.** An outside row of canes pulled down and under the motif to contain the design. Bacchus weights were almost always finished with an outside row of canes in this manner. The canes may be all one color, alternating two or three colors, or a variety of colors, as when the outside canes in a closepack are pulled down to form a basket.

*Contemporary use: Drew Ebelhare finishes many of his weights with a millefiori basket.*

**Stave.** A flattened white or colored rod. These are used in place of canes to form the stem on most Clichy mushrooms, to create the pedestal on most Clichy piedouches and to make a stave basket.

**Stave basket.** A row of staves, close to the glass surface, on the lower part of a paperweight forming a basket-like enclosure for a closepack or close concentric millefiori design.

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

## **Changes at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum**

Jan Smith, Executive Director of the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum in Neenah, Wisconsin reported on changes to the facility in order to enhance the four glass collections including its stellar paperweight collection, and to provide visitors with a more valuable experience.

The scope of the introductory phase, planned to end in September, is to reinstall the three paperweight galleries according to technique and complexity of design, as well as antique to contemporary by artist where possible. Galleries are separated by Millefiori, Lampwork, and Sulphide with related objects, as well as whimsies and souvenirs after 1870. The paperweights comprise the museum's primary collection. Mrs. Evangeline Bergstrom bequeathed 652 pieces in 1958 to become the foundation of a collection that has grown to 3,000 objects.

Reference, storage and study areas have been expanded. Video material will be incorporated into the new installation to further enhance the visitor experience and education. Through reorganization, 90% of the entire collection is on display.

The Mahler Collection of Germanic Glass Drinking Vessels has moved into the first floor of the Mahler Gallery. Ernst Mahler, a Neenah resident and Kimberly-Clark Corporation inventor, purchased this collection of drinking glasses in 1931 in Vienna. The earliest piece is dated 1573.

A selection from the Contemporary Studio Glass Collection is located in the naturally lit Kimberley-Clark Gallery. Wisconsin was home to the first Studio Glass program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

A selection of the Victorian Art Glass Basket Collection is displayed in new glass cases on the second floor. This collection provides a comprehensive look at the variety of surface treatments applied by English and American artisans. The vast majority of objects take the basket form, but the collection is rounded out by companion pieces such as vases, pitchers, and rose bowls.

Please send any comments or inquiries to Jan Smith, as well as interest in providing video stories on collection rarities and points of interest. Website <http://www.bergstrom-mahlermuseum.com>.

## **PCA Ontario Switches to Calendar Year for Annual Dues**

Following discussion at the June meeting, it was decided to shift the deadline for annual dues to the calendar year. A grace period will be applied to any memberships which have already been paid thereby shifting them to the next calendar year Jan-Dec 2013.

## **Paperweights Sought for Baccarat Book**

*(Paul Dunlop, Author and PCA Registered Dealer)*

Thank you for assistance in obtaining photographs for the comprehensive book on Baccarat weights in progress. We are still looking for the last five weights as follows:

- 1970 yellow dahlia on translucent blue ground ed/ 200
- 1971 light blue dahlia on transparent blue ed/ 250

- 1972 interlacing trefoils on muslin ed/ 200
- 1980 amethyst dahlia on white ground ed/ 75
- 1981 “Nenuphar carmin” frog with carmine water lily ed/ 125

## In Memoriam

Mabel McLanahan, 94 yrs. Mother of Gary and mother-in-law of Marge, long-time member of the McLanahan Fine Glass Paperweights sales team.

## 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)

### L.H. Selman

Fine Glass Paperweights






L.H. Selman Ltd. is one of the Chicago Loop's best kept secrets. Located in the Fine Arts Building, a historical landmark and stop on the architectural tour, we offer the widest range of contemporary and antique glass paperweights found anywhere in the world. We have over 4000 glass paperweights on display at any given time. You don't have to travel far to treat yourself to this spellbiding destination. Preview our extensive website at [www.Selman.com](http://www.Selman.com).



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<p><b>brad jesson</b>  <b>glass art</b>    519-301-4874  bossglass@ymail.com</p>	<p><b>WILLIAM PITT</b>  Visit my new website for the largest on-line selection of contemporary &amp; antique paperweights at competitive prices.  <a href="http://www.wpitt.com">www.wpitt.com</a> Email: <a href="mailto:wipitt@aol.com">wipitt@aol.com</a>  16 Sconticut Neck Road #312 • Fairhaven, MA 02719  508-993-9434</p>
<p><b>The Dictionary of Glass Paperweights, by Paul Dunlop</b>    \$74 US funds, postage &amp; insurance paid to Canada.  Papier Presse, PO Box 6269, Statesville, NC 28687    <a href="mailto:dunloppaperweights@gmail.com">dunloppaperweights@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>FOR SALE: Fine selection of French &amp; American Weights</b>  Including Charles Kaziun and other contemporary artists. Many Books for sale. We purchase one or collections of weights.  <b>TERI ANTIQUES</b>  P.O. Box 130-163 Hanover Street Station • Boston, MA 02113  Tel: 617-846-9465 • Email: <a href="mailto:theresemcnamara@msn.com">theresemcnamara@msn.com</a></p>
<p>  326 Second Avenue, P.O. Box 489, Wellington ON K0K 3L0  TEL: (613) 399-3552  <a href="http://www.armstrongglassworks.com">www.armstrongglassworks.com</a></p>	<p>30,000 sq feet <span style="float: right;">Open 7 days</span>    <b>SOUTHWORKS</b>  <b>ANTIQUES</b>  84 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge Ontario N1S 2L8  Tel: (519) 740-0110  <a href="http://www.southworksaniques.com">www.southworksaniques.com</a></p>
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**PCA Membership Application** (please print)

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Name\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_Prov\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code\_\_\_\_\_

Country\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

email\_\_\_\_\_

**Paperweight Collectors Association**

**Ontario, Canada**

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**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:**

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