



# The Paperweight Chase

Newsletter of the Paperweight Collectors Association Ontario Canada

Number 34

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

September 2025

## **Greetings and Update**

It has been a relatively busy year for many of us. We appreciate the support of our members and wish everyone the very best of health as we go forward.

## **PCA Ontario Canada**

Earlier this year, Rick and Tracy hosted a meeting in their condo. They will be hosting again on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. A meeting reminder will be sent out to members in the near future. Please note that [this meeting will start at 1:00 p.m.](#) rather than the 2:00 p.m. start in the past. This is due to the Daylight Savings Time change the week before the meeting.

We are pleased to welcome new member, Pierre Martin, from Montreal, Quebec. Pierre has recently loaned 43 paperweights from his personal collection for an exhibition at “Espace Verre” (Glass Space), a unique gallery, studios and school dedicated to glass-blowing, a 7 min. walk from Old Montreal. The exhibit was mounted to promote paperweight making as an art form to students and teachers. It runs from Sept 05 until December 20<sup>th</sup>. It is not open to the public but Pierre will be happy to arrange a private visit and tour. If you plan to be in Montreal, please contact me and I will put you in touch with Pierre.

## **YouTube**

A number of videos on the subject of paperweights are available on YouTube. If you go to YouTube.com website and search on paperweights, glass etc., you will find numerous videos of interest.

Recently, PCA Inc. posted a video on YouTube “Paperweights 101: Why, What & How to Collect Glass Paperweights” narrated by Eric Jump.

View Paul Stankard’s video. Search “Paul Stankard Flower and Flame”. On September 25, 2025, this film received the Mid-Atlantic Emmy award for documentary. David Graeber, Executive Producer, was present to receive the award.

Also “Paperweights with Landscapes” by Dana Reneau from California.

Another to look for “Rare Artistry Enrich Your Soul with the Relaxing Craft of Venetian Glass Art”.

Search St. Louis Glass Paperweight to find “How \$13,000 Paperweights Are Made The Oldest Crystal Factory in France – Still Standing”.

Enjoy!!

### **ZOOM Meetings Updates**

Paperweight Collectors Circle (PCC) in the UK has held a number of Zoom meetings and video discussions with artists. Stefan Bracht has recently retired from his job in pharmaceuticals and hopes to be making more paperweights in the future.

Another ZOOM meeting offered an opportunity to take a virtual tour of the Bergstrom Mahler Museum in Wisconsin with Curator, Casey Eichhorn.

Early in 2025, Alan Thornton and Victoria Egan hosted an event “To B or Not to B (or is it or isn’t it a Bacchus paperweight)” in an attempt to clarify the confusing subject of the identification of Bacchus paperweights.

PCA Inc. has also begun to hold ZOOM meetings. Recently Dana Reneau held one on “Landscape Paperweights”.

Eric Jump narrated another through PCA Inc. “Paperweights 101: Why, What & How to Collect Glass Paperweights”.

### **Recent Photos from the Paperweight Exhibit at the ROM Toronto**



### **PCA Inc. Convention 2026**

Corning NY has been selected as the site for next year’s PCA Convention. The Corning Museum of Glass will host the event May 13-16, 2026. Additional convention and hotel information will be upcoming on the PCA website, <https://www.paperweight.org> The announcement of artists and programme information has not yet been finalized.

PCA Inc. held a ZOOM meeting on September 13th to request the involvement of volunteers for the Convention and to provide information on requirements.

### **Upcoming Auctions**

- L.H. Selman will hold an All-Modern Auction on September 22, 2025.
- Another auction will be held by Selman on October 28, 2025 featuring a Single-Owner, All-Antique Auction.

### **Visit with the Family of John Gooderham**

Recently, Rick and I visited the family of the late John Gooderham, our celebrated Canadian paperweight artist, at their home in Orillia, Ontario. John had a long-service record with Algoma Steel in Sault-Ste-Marie, and along the way developed his interest in working with glass.

Many stories were shared amongst his two surviving daughters, Janice and Charlene, and his granddaughter, Kay. In the early days, John visited frequently with Ronald Hansen in Mackinaw, Michigan. He begged Ronald to show him how to make paperweights. Ron would show him absolutely nothing until he mastered the art of making spun glass animal figurines. John practised in the basement of their family home and would challenge his young daughters to guess (if they could) what kind of animal he had just made. In the beginning, many were unrecognizable.

This glass swizzle stick was among the first of John's successes. After this was completed, Ronald Hansen was satisfied and began to share some information with him.



John wanted to be known as 'the one and only' at making something. He decided on making miniatures, particularly dollhouse paperweights and jewellery items. In addition, he was celebrated for his glass buttons which are still popular today with button collectors. Here is a selection of buttons in his daughter's collection.



John traded with other artists at Wheaton Village and at paperweight conventions. His family supported his endeavours over the years. His granddaughter, Kay, recalled spending many hours working with her grandfather doing setups.

On a trip to Murano, his daughter recalled that he was wearing one of his lapel pins when he showed up at one of the glass workshops. He was asked at the door, “Who made that?” When he replied that he had made it himself, he was immediately denied entry.

John was a founding member of PCA Ontario Canada in 1979. His miniature trillium remains as the logo for the Newsletter of our club. He passed away peacefully at home in 2007 at the age of 76.





The family has a number of items from his personal collection that are available for sale. If interested, you are welcome to contact his granddaughter Kay at [kaymarks986@gmail.com](mailto:kaymarks986@gmail.com) or I will provide you with the phone number for his daughter, Janice.

#### **Definitions**

**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.

**Cullet:** (a) Broken or refuse glass, gathered for remelting. From the Latin word *collum*, which refers to the neck of the glass left on the pipe after blowing. Added to a new batch, this melts first, speeding up the fusion of the other ingredients. (b) Also slang for unwanted impurities in a paperweight's encasing glass.

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

**PCA Membership Application** (please print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov \_\_\_\_\_

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

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership in PCA Canada in 2025 is \$25 CDN  
per household.

**Mail Application to:**

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# 1701 – 1320 Islington Avenue  
Toronto, ON M9A 5C6  
Canada

Phone: (416) 476-3691

email: [twillson@sympatico.ca](mailto:twillson@sympatico.ca)

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