

Fenton Finders

Art glass collectors welcome newcomers to fledgling club

The Fenton Finders of the Great Lakes State have put up a display of Fenton Art Glass — with a holiday theme — in the showcase in Farmington Branch Library, on State and Liberty streets.

Members of the group who have just celebrated their chapter's first anniversary hope that the display will show passers-by what Fenton glass is, bring inquiries about the glass and newcomers to the Finders.

"Our purpose is to collect, preserve and educate others about the glass," said Betty Hansen, a Farmington resident, president and a founder of the chapter here. "At each meeting, all members bring in pieces from their private collections for display around a preplanned theme for the group to discuss."

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month in Novi Middle School, and draw members from throughout the northwest suburbs.

FENTON ART Glass Co., in Williamstown, W. Va., has been creating hand-made art glass since 1907 and is one of the few remaining glass companies of its kind still in operation in the U.S.

The Fenton Finders of the Great Lakes State is operated under a charter which was given to the chapter in August 1988, at the annual convention of its parent organization, the Fenton Art Glass Collectors of America.

Hansen expects that many of the local Finders will be attending the next national convention in August 1989, when members meet in Marietta, O.

Some of the displays and discussions in past monthly meetings have been centered around carnival glass, old and new, Old Virginia glass manufactured by Fenton; cranberry glass; and one Halloween program was devoted exclusively to orange and black glass.

"The first part of the meeting is club business, followed by the planned program, then a break for socializing and refreshments," Hansen said. "Then members can buy and sell glass and participate in a glass identification session."

ONE OF THE plans for the new year include an open house with a special program for new members or any guest who wishes to learn more about Fenton glass or the organization.

Another plan is to have another large display of Fenton glass in the downtown library to run throughout the month of February. This display will carry a romantic theme with a variety of heart shaped candy dishes and all red and white glass pieces in observance of Valentine's Day.

Persons who wish to receive an invitation for the open house, or want any information on the Finders are invited to call Hansen at 471-4377.



Deloris McCloskey is a member of The Fenton Finders of the Great Lakes State, which will be welcoming newcomers into the chapter during its first open house.

Questers hope gift will prime the pump of generosity

The Quakertown Questers are hoping that their gift of \$100 to the Restoration and Preservation Fund will prime the pump of public generosity.

The Farmington-based chapter is a member of the national Questers, whose purpose is the restoration and preservation of antiquities.

Old Mariners Church in downtown Detroit is a federally and state designated historic building "worthy of most careful preservation," said Quester Beatrice Keener. "Detroit and all Michigan have reason to take pride in this exceptional building listed in the National Register of Historic Places."

The Questers want it known that Old Mariners does not receive monies from the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, or any city, state or federal governments.

"A small membership of parishioners and friends from the metro area maintain the church. But that income is inadequate to pay the costs of preserving the historic integrity of this landmark for the benefit of future generations."

"The landmark serves not only mariners, but is a house of prayer for all people," she said.

IT WAS ON Dec. 22, 1840, that Detroit's daily newspaper, the Daily Advertiser, announced the consecra-

tion of the "new Mariners' Church."

Two Detroit sisters, Charlotte M. Taylor and Julia Anderson, left both land and money to build "the best Mariners Church edifice in the world." The architect, C. N. Otis of Buffalo, N.Y., used "perpendicular Gothic" architecture, which was developed between the 15th and 16th centuries.

In 1955 the large stone church made headlines in national newspapers when it was moved, en masse, 880 feet due east to Detroit's new Civic Center. Its new location was historically appropriate as it was the site of the old Indian Council House, which held the first Episcopal services in Michigan.

The church's Preservation and Restoration Fund has been used for repointing stonework, restoring the magnificent stained-glass windows, antique pews and flooring.

"Some of the buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places are well-funded," Keener said. "But many depend heavily upon individual generosity, and Mariner's Church is one of these."

"Future generations also depend upon that generosity to see these landmarks survive into their time. Well-kept old buildings help foster that sense of history, tradition, continuity and roots that connect the generations," she said.



Ming the Magnificent uses ancient magic powers to suspend his assistant in the air above his head. He'll suspend his entire audience in amazement when he performs Dec. 27 in Farmington Community Center.

Magic and pizza parties spark up holiday break

A little magic to spark up the children's holiday vacation is coming to Farmington Community Center to dazzle the entire family with two Magic Show/Pizza Parties.

The amazing illusion of Ming the Magnificent follows a Caesar's Pizza luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, and the comedy magicians Boyer and Fitzsimmons follow a pizza dinner at 6 p.m. Dec. 29.

Combining ancient oriental illusion with modern magic, Ming the Magnificent is a master of amazement. Ming's Chinese grandfather passed secret magic powers to this magician when he was 9 years old and Ming has been mystifying audiences ever since.

Boyer and Fitzsimmons will mix music, magic and comedy for an exciting and humorous magic show. Working with several props and rabbits and doves, these two characters will invite the audience to participate in many parts of their show. Boyer and Fitzsimmons' performance is brought in part by a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts.

To make reservations for the family entertainment packages, call the Farmington Community Center at 477-8404. A \$5 per person charge in-

cludes the pizza meal and performance.

The center is a nonprofit independent organization at 24705 Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile.

\$4 million raised on TV special

USA Network's live six-hour "Thanks For Giving" special benefiting the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International, which aired on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, raised almost \$4 million. The final tote at the end of the six hours was \$3,975,501, which represents an increase of more than 30 percent over the \$3 million raised last year.

The special aired for the second year on USA Network with no commercial interruptions during the six hours. USA Network, cable's all-entertainment network, is seen in 46 million homes via 10,100 cable systems.

For inquiries about the foundation, contact the Metro Detroit Chapter, 569-6171.

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