

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Spring 2003

The Leaded Glass of Frank Lloyd Wright

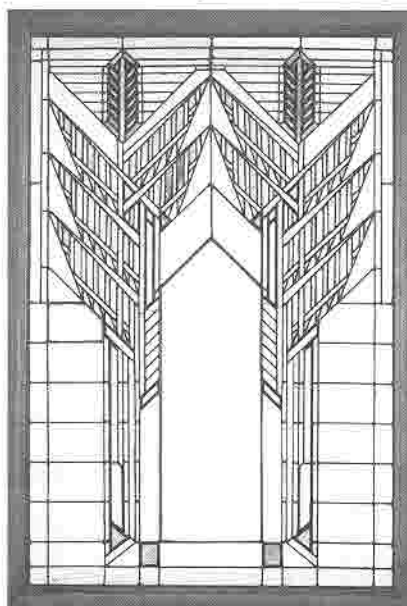
Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959) is famous for his innovative architecture; less well known are his designs for decorative windows. "*Light Screens: The Leaded Glass of Frank Lloyd Wright*", looks at 48 stained glass windows by this icon of American architecture.

This exhibition, on view at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum from March 14 through July 20, 2003, includes two architectural models and 13 original plates from two of Wright's portfolios.

"This exhibition considers Wright's unique conception of the role of ornamental glass", said Kenneth Trapp, curator-in-charge of the Renwick Gallery. "*Light Screens* investigates his radical reinterpretation of the window in America's Arts and Craft movement at the turn-of-the-century, the country's growing internationalism and new methods of glass production and building construction."

Wright's exploration of light and color in patterned windows is newly considered in the exhibition. Of the windows featured, many are being shown to the public for the first time and nearly half are drawn from private collections throughout North America. The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation has lent significant windows for this exhibition.

From 1885 to 1923, decorative glass windows were an integral part of Wright's architecture. During this period, he designed more than 4,500 windows for 160 buildings, of which almost 100 were completed. These windows were specific to the structures for which they were designed. The evolution of his thinking about architecture, the integration of ornament and the relation of interior



Window from the Susan Lawrence Dana House (1902-04)

space to exterior setting can be studied by a chronological survey of the windows he created. The exhibition explores how Wright came to see the design of window spaces as a way to bring the outside in, and to visually unite landscape and interior.

The exhibition challenges conventional wisdom about Wright's use of windows by revealing the extent to which Wright chose to emphasize, not abolish, the separation of inside and outside. Rejecting the opalescent, painterly effects achieved by Louis Comfort Tiffany and John La Farge, Wright

used predominantly clear glass and geometric shapes to create screens between inside and outside environments. In his own words, he sought to create 'light screens'—a term that evokes Japanese shoji screens, which were arranged in bands like his windows.

Julie L. Sloan, scholar, author and glass conservator, organized the exhibition. Kenneth Trapp, curator-in-charge, oversaw the installation of this exhibition at the Renwick Gallery.

The exhibition is accompanied by two books written by Ms. Sloan and published by Rizzoli International Publications: *Light Screens: The Leaded Glass of Frank Lloyd Wright*, a 160-page exhibition catalog with 192 color illustrations, which examines Wright's masterly manipulation of light, composition and color in his patterned windows; and *Light Screens: The Complete Leaded Glass Windows of Frank Lloyd Wright*, a detailed documentation and appraisal of the more than 500 window designs

that are major achievements within Wright's oeuvre. The book includes a detailed technical history of Wright's leaded glass production from the 1890s to the 1920s.

Please contact the museum for further details; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Renwick Gallery, Washington, DC 20560 (202) 275-1594 or visit the web site at <http://AmericanArt.si.edu>



Living Room (detail) Meyer May House (1908)

President's letter

Dear Friends,

Welcome from the snow bound East coast. My mother always told me to be careful of what I wished for.

This too shall pass and there is a world of activities coming up to relieve the cabin fever that some may be experiencing.

In April, there is the Westchester Glass Club's Glass Collectors Show and Sale. Please call Doug Reed if you would like a Show Card and save \$1.00 on each admission. In May, there is the NAGC Seminar including a trip to Winterthur and an auction.

For Seminar attendees this will also be an opportunity to wish Carmen Freeman a farewell as Seminar Chairman. It would be impossible for anyone who has attended a Seminar in the last nine years not to become an instant friend of Carmen. She has single-handedly obtained speakers, made visits to sites prior to the Seminar, arranged transportation, lined up activities and made banquet preparations.

This is also the 70th anniversary of NAGC. There will be a special gift for persons attending the Seminar to help celebrate to occasion. There will also be a board meeting during the Seminar. If you have something you would like to have brought before the Board, please write to Carl Gortzig the liaison to all members.

I look forward to meeting many of you this May.

On May 16th the Sandwich Glass Museum will hold a Ceremony of Dedication for the newly expanded Museum, theater and the Glass Blowing Demonstration Facility.

- Douglas Reed

Two Fenton Glass Family Members

Bill Fenton, one of the 2nd generation family members to operate Fenton Art Glass died December 11, 2002.

The 79-year-old Fenton is remembered as the person who headed the company with his brother for almost 40 years. It was a period when nearly all the region's glass factories were shutting down, but Mr. Fenton and his brother, Frank, kept the company prospering.

Fenton Art Glass was founded in 1905 by the two Fenton brothers in Martins Ferry, WV. The company was moved in 1907 to Williamstown where it grew and prospered.

In 1986, Bill and Frank Fenton turned operation of the company over to a 3rd generation of Fenton family members.

But Bill Fenton remained active in the company as an elder statesman and spokesman. He became well-known for his appearances on the cable channel QVC, which sells Fenton glass items.

Sadly, the company has suffered another loss with the death, on February 2, 2003, of Don Fenton, 52, Vice President of Sales at Fenton Art Glass. The glass world will mourn these two passings.

(This article was taken in part from the *Marietta Times*, Marietta, Ohio 12/12/02.)

Riverland Glass Society

The newly formed Riverside Glass Collector's Society is looking for new members. The group is dedicated to the collection, preservation and documentation of the EAPG produced at the Riverside Glass Works. The benefits of the annual membership dues of \$25 includes a quarterly newsletter, updates on new research, exhibits and other news, and an invitation to lectures, sales and other events.

For further information please contact them at RGCS, PO Box 266, Colesburg, IA 52035

Canary to Contemporary

David Peterson's much anticipated book *Vaseline Glass: Canary to Contemporary* is indeed "the comprehensive guide to yellow-green Pattern glass, Art glass and novel-

ties from 1840 - present." (Antique Publications, 2002,

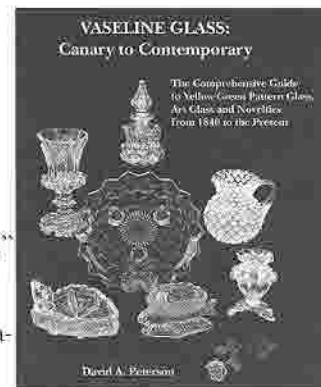
The Glass Press, Inc.
www.glasscollectingbooks.com
(800) 533-3433)

Mr. Peterson is a well known authority in the glass collecting world, especially amongst the rapidly growing number of Vaseline glass collectors. He edits the popular publication *The Glowing Report* (www.vaselineglass.org) which provides the latest research, updates on new glass production and even keeps readers up-to-date on recent auction results. With his new book, he has assured himself a place among other invaluable glass researchers such as William Heacock and Gene Florence.

His book provides us with hundreds of well executed photographs covering the entire history of this glass type. Many are rare examples from private collections and are seen here for the first time. Examples range from the beginning in 19th century Bohemia, to the American companies Gibson and Summit, c. 2002. Some of the more spectacular pieces shown date to the Art glass period in Europe and the US.

But the substance of the book is in the research. He carefully documents all the patterns made in Vaseline glass at over 35 different glass factories noting company advertisements and catalog pages. He also includes the historical background of each of the manufacturers.

Canary to Contemporary will undoubtedly prove to be a valuable research tool and collector's guide.



GLASS Videos for Rent

And

Bulletins for Purchase

See the NAGC Directory or

www.glassclub.org

for information

Contact: Karen Petraglia

40 Country RD

Holliston, MA 01746

(508) 429-5135

kp0828@aol.com

Glass Calendar

(Confirmation of dates and schedules advised.)

More information is available on our web page at www.glassclub.org

Through April 6, 2003

GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton, NJ (609) 586-0616 "*Dale Chihuly: New Work.*" Works in glass, some made especially for the exhibition, by this internationally renown artist. www.groundsforsculpture.org

Through June 22, 2003

MUSEUM OF GLASS International Center for Contemporary Art, 1801 Dock St., Tacoma, WA 98402. "*Glass Eats Light: Innovations in Glass by Bertil Vallien*" See article on page 5. www.museumofglass.org (253) 396-1768.

March 14 - July 20, 2003

Renwick Gallery of the SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM Presents "*Light Screens: The Leaded Glass of Frank Lloyd Wright*" an exhibit of 48 stained glass windows of this American icon. See page 1 for article. <http://AmericanArt.si.edu>

March 20 - September 1, 2003

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY (800) 732-6845. "*Heads of State*" an exhibit of 60 items that show portraits of heads of state, monarchs, politicians and other notables. www.cmog.org

April 2003

The 30th annual HCA ALL-HEISEY BENEFIT AUCTION to benefit the National Heisey Museum will be held at the Appletree Auction Center in Newark, OH. (740) 345-2932. www.heiseymuseum.org

April 5 - October 20, 2003

WHEATON VILLAGE, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ (856) 825-6800. The museum's modern wing will showcase work by each of the 200 Creative Glass Center's fellows.

April 6, 2003

YANKEE POLE CAT Insulator Club Annual Insulator & Bottle Show & Sale. American Legion Hall, 566 Enfield St., Enfield, CT. (203) 261-1190. email: rajpol@earthlink.net

April 12 & 13, 2003

The 27th GLASS COLLECTOR'S SHOW & SALE sponsored by the Westchester Glass Club, NAGC at the Greenwich Civic Center in Old Greenwich, CT. Paul Stankard, noted glass artist, will give a presentation

entitled "*Native Flowers Interpreted in Glass*". (973) 763-4524.

April 13, 2003

N.E. ANTIQUE BOTTLE CLUB'S 37th Annual Show & Sale. Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Ave., Portland, ME (207) 839-4389

April 24 - 27, 2003

THE EARLY AMERICAN PATTERN GLASS SOCIETY (EAPGS) annual meeting is at the Harrisburg-Hershey, PA Marriott this year. Banquet speaker will be Holly McCluskey, Curator of Oglebay Institute in Wheeling, WV. Contact the hotel (717) 564-5511 or visit www.eapgs.org

April 25 - 27, 2003

EASTERN NATIONAL ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE, Harrisburg, PA. Jim Chambers (Manager) Eastern National Show, PO Box 1786, Allentown, PA 18105 (610) 437-5534. jcmaena@aol.com www.antiquenet.com

May 3, 2003

MARBLE FESTIVAL, WV Museum of Glass, Weston, WV. (304) 269-5006. The annual Marble Festival will be held in Cairo, WV.

www.wvmuseumofglass@aol.com

May 8 - 10, 2003

19th ANNUAL NAGC SEMINAR. www.glassclub.org Seminar headquarters at the Embassy Suites, BWI airport, 15 minutes from the city. Lectures on Carnival Glass, Early American, Quezal, Japanese Cloissonne, Moser and the 12-13th C Hedwig glasses. Tours of Winterthur Museum & Walters Art Museum. Fee \$215 or individual lectures. Contact: carmenfreeman@directvinternet.com (941) 966-4406.

May 12 & 13, 2003

GREEN VALLEY AUCTIONS, 2259 Green Valley Lane, Mt. Crawford, VA (540) 434-4260. 18th & 19th Century Pressed & Blown Glass, Lighting & English Ceramics. Visit the web site for catalog and other information. www.greenvalleyauctions.com

May 15 - October 26, 2003

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY (800) 732-6845. "*A Texan in Venice: The Art of Robert Willson*" (1912-2000). Curated by Tina Oldknow, an exhibit on this pioneer sculptor.

June 1 - December, 2003

WHEATON VILLAGE, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ (856) 825-6800. The Creative Glass Center of America celebrates its 20th anniversary with the juried exhibit "*20/20 Vision*". Suzann Frantz, formerly of Corning Museum, will determine work shown.

June 5 - 8, 2003

The NATIONAL IMPERIAL GLASS COLLECTORS SOCIETY PO Box 534, Bellaire, OH 43906. The 27th annual convention will focus on the opening of the National Imperial Glass Museum and kick off with the grand opening ceremony on June 5, 2003. www.imperialglass.org

June 13 - 15, 2003

POSTORIA GLASS SOCIETY presents the 23rd Annual Show and Sale. Delf Norona Museum, 8th St. & Jefferson Ave., Moundsville, WV. Auction, Sat. 6pm. For information, contact: Mary (304) 845-5711. For show information call (304) 845-9188 or Jim at jimsher@knightwave.com

June 13 & 14, 2003

The OLD MORGANTOWN GLASS COLLECTOR' GUILD's annual convention will be held at St. Mary's Peace Hall in Star City, WV. www.oldmorgantown.org

June 20 - 22, 2003

WHEATON VILLAGE, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ (856) 825-6800 "*Marble Weekend II*" an unprecedented opportunity for marble collectors, dealers and artist to come together. Included will be demonstrations, sale and exhibits of marbles and even a "*Make Your Own Marble*" event. See page 5 for article. www.wheatonvillage.org

June 26 - 29, 2003

Annual NATIONAL MILK GLASS COLLECTORS CONVENTION will be held at Wheaton Village, Millville, NJ with accommodations at Country Inns & Suites, Millville, NJ (888) 201-1746). www.nmgcs.org

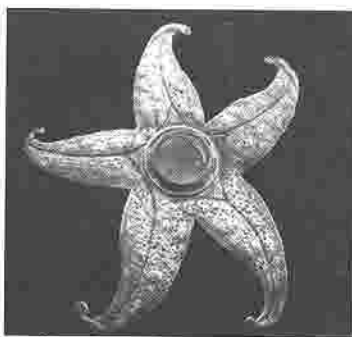
November 6 - 9, 2003

The MT. WASHINGTON ART GLASS SOCIETY 12th annual glass conference at Woodlands Hotel, Williamsburg, VA. Tours of the Chrysler Museum, Colonial Williamsburg & Tiffany Church Windows. Joseph Heyman (757) 229-9514 or jbheyman@cox.net

Colors in Nature: The Glass Jewelry of Hazel Blake French

The Sandwich Glass Museum exhibit on the glass jewelry designs of Hazel Blake French (1890-1970), May 2-December 31, 2003 explores the inspiration and technique behind Ms. French's interpretive work on Sandwich glass fragments. The exhibit will focus on her life and training as well as a variety of creations she produced in 60 years of designing jewelry and artwork.

The Boston & Sandwich Glass Company was known around the



Cranberry Starfish Brooch

19th century.

Hazel Blake French had long been entranced by the colorful cullet she

world for its contribution to industrialized glass production as well as artistic and functional design. The fragments are some of the last physical vestiges of the active and vibrant glass factory which prospered in Sandwich during the

found as a child at the site of the Boston & Sandwich Glass Company factory during her summer vacations. As an artist, she interpreted the jewel-like beauty of Sandwich glass fragments through her creations of intricate and sculptural jewelry inspired by the indigenous flora and fauna of Cape Cod, MA. Her designs were highly respected and were exhibited at the 1916 Moscow Exposition and the 1937 Paris World Exposition. Her jewelry was highly sought after and some of her clients included French and English nobility. (508) 888-0251.

Glass Eats Light

The Smålands Museum, Växjö, Sweden in collaboration with the Museum of Glass: International Center for Contemporary Art of Tacoma, WA., presents "*Glass Eats Light: Innovations in Glass by Bertil Vallien*" a new exhibit now through June 22, 2003.

Bertil Vallien is truly a revolutionary figure in Swedish art. He studied at the National College of Arts, Crafts and Design in Stockholm and subsequently served as head of its

glass design program for 17 years. He has been working as a designer for Kosta Boda since 1963.

Vallien is known for charging his sculptures with radiant light. He has created a new series of sculptures in the form of sand-cast glass heads—masks and faces whose outer aspect is often in stark contrast with the inner message—to explore the theme of the transitional state between life and death. www.museumofglass.org (253) 396-1768.

New Publication: *The Tiffany Chapel*

The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art is offering a new publication entitled *The Tiffany Chapel*, a 112 page book about the

chapel interior Louis Comfort Tiffany created for the 1893 world's fair in Chicago.

The Tiffany Chapel is an

assembly of 7 scholarly essays about the Tiffany chapel, its significance, history and conservation by the Morse Museum. The articles are accompanied by more than 100 color and black and white photographs.

Contributing authors are Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NY; Wendy Kaplan, of the LA County Museum of

Art; Joel M. Hoffman of the Brooklyn Museum of Art; Rustin Levenson of Art Conservation Assoc., in NY and Miami; John Maseman of the South Florida Conservation Center; Patricia Pongracz

Spicka of the American Bible Society of NY; Laurence Ruggiero of the Morse Museum; and Thomas Venturella, Venturella Studio of NY.

The book retails for \$24.95. Please call the Morse Museum shop at (407) 645-5316



**Feeding the Flamingos (detail) c1892
Leaded Favrite Glass**

Gail I. Krause

A devotee of Duncan & Miller glassware, a glass collector, lecturer and antique dealer for over 30 years Mrs. Gail Krause died on December 6, 2002.

A longtime resident of Washington, PA., which is the home of The Duncan & Miller Glass Company. Mrs. Krause was among the earliest researchers to document the history and production of two of the country's most collectible glassmakers, The Duncan & Miller Glass Co. and its predecessor, George Duncan & Sons. These factories are renowned for such glass patterns as Three Face, and Early American Sandwich.

Authoring *The Encyclopedia of Duncan Glass*, *The Years of Duncan 1865-1955* and *A Pictorial History of Duncan & Miller Glass*, she also wrote articles for the *Glass Review* and was a frequent contributor to national publications. One of the founding members in 1975 of the National Duncan Glass Society, Gail served on its board of directors and for a period time edited the society's newsletter, *The National Duncan Glass Journal*.

Gail Krause will be missed by her many friends and long remembered for her kindness, generosity, and willingness to share her love of glass.

- Contributed by NAGC members Frank Maloney & George Fogg

Marble Weekend II

Marble Weekend at Wheaton Village on June 20 - 22 is an unprecedented opportunity for marble collectors, dealers and artists to come together in a unique studio setting. Marble exhibits and sales, marble games and live artist demonstrations, are all part of this exciting experience.

During the event, nationally known marble artists will be showcased in the Studio working at the torch and from the tank. The Museum of American Glass will present a special exhibit of marbles and the South Jersey Marble Collectors will provide a marble games exhibit in the Down Jersey Folklife Center. Children of all ages will be able to try their hands at marble games on the court.

Also there will be the unique opportunity to participate in the "Make Your Own Marble" event which is available to a limited number of preregistered attendees on a first come, first serve basis. The fee is \$40.00. Appointments available Friday ONLY! Call or e-mail for availability. (856) 825-6800 or doris@wheatonvillage.org

New Glass Club in Japan

Japan Uranium Glass Collectors Club (JUGCC) is the only organization in Japan for Vaseline glass collectors. Vaseline glass contains a small quantity of uranium and was manufactured mainly in Europe and the U.S. about 100-150 years ago. One notable characteristic is its fascinating fluorescence under black light.

The JUGCC president is Dr. Ken Tomabechi, author of *Uranium Glass* (1995) who lectured at Founder's Chapter in March of 2000. The club is free of charge and open to all.

The membership includes uranium researchers, nuclear industry engineers, antique shop owners, and collectors

who are interested in Vaseline glass. Also, it includes the engineers from Ningyo-touge, which is the only uranium mine in Japan.



The Denryoku-Kan, Tokyo
Uranium Glass Exhibit

Recent activities include the 3rd Japan Uranium Glass Exhibition held in January, 2003, in Tokyo. 300 pieces of Uranium glass were on display and was attended by over 1,100 visitors.

Please visit the web site to learn more or view the glass that was on

exhibit. www.egroups.co.jp/files/uranglass/english.htm

Also, please contact the club via email and send to: Mr. Ritsuo Yoshioka. JCC04030@nifty.ne.jp

Green Valley Auctions: Victorian Colored Glass

On January 31 and February 1, 2003 Green Valley Auctions, Inc. of Mt. Crawford, Virginia, held its cataloged auction of fine 19th and early 20th century Victorian, EAPG, Carnival and Elegant glass.

From the collection of Ken Kercheval was one of only two known and extremely rare, *Three Face Shell and Tassel* open compotes which ended at \$5,200 to a West Coast bidder who received competition from a major glass museum. Also sold was a Chocolate glass *Squirrel* water pitcher (#172) which closed at \$700. The star of the Ruby and Amber stained glass category was a rare *Chandelier* sugar shaker in unrecorded ruby stain (#185) which brought \$2,500.

The stars of the show may have

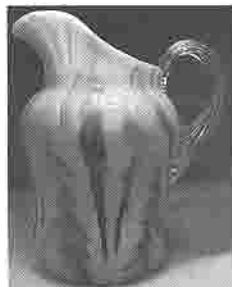
been the colored opalescent pitchers which kicked off with an *Arabian Nights* in cranberry (#414) at \$3,000. The *Christmas Snowflake* ribbed pitcher in cranberry (#438) saw \$2,400. The much sought after

Herringbone pitcher in cranberry (#500) soared to \$5,000. The moment



Herringbone Pitcher
\$5,000

most were waiting for finally arrived when the *Scottish Moor* water pitcher in cranberry with heavy opalescence (#578) saw fierce bidding from the floor and six phones to



Scottish Moor
Water Pitcher
\$5,300

finally realize \$5,300 from the floor. The *Stars and Stripes* tankard in cranberry (#588) was equally as popular encumbering six phones and ending at \$4,700. Pitchers took a breather while another lot saw fierce competition, a *Swirl* straw jar in blue and complete with lid (#605) saw \$4,100 from a noted Midwest collector.



Stars & Stripes Tankard
\$4,700

Auctioneer Jeffrey Evans later commented "cranberry is still king" and was very pleased with the two day event. As in the past, Green Valley's full color illustrated catalog should emerge as a valuable price guide and reference material for future use. www.greenvalleyauctions.com or (540) 434-4260

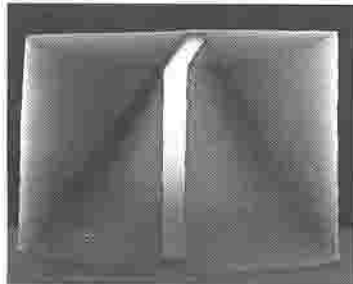
"Libensky & His Students"

The new exhibition *Libensky & His Students: 44 Czech Glass Artists* at the Museum of Art & Design, now open through June 8, explores relationships among works by master and students.

Stanislav Libensky and his wife and collaborator, Jaroslava Brychtová, revolutionized the field of modern Czech glass art over a period spanning four decades. Libensky led the movement that elevated glass as a medium for decorative objects into a serious art

form for sculpture and architecture. Their work, ranging from the intimate to the monumental and the figurative to the abstract, demonstrates the power of glass as a sculptural medium.

This is the only American venue for the exhibition. For further information please contact the museum at 40 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019 (212) 956-3535. (Please note that the American Craft Museum has changed its name to the Museum of Arts and Design.)



Vestment II,
1998
Libensky &
Brychtová

Chapter News

Aurice Weiss of **Founder's Chapter**, MA, led a discussion about decanters this past February.

An informal program precedes the feature speaker at each meeting giving every member a chance to talk about their collection or area of glass interest. Contact Pearl Brimmer

Pittsburgh Chapter will host Gay Taylor, Curator of Glass at Wheaton Village in April. Gay will present a "well polished" presentation on silvered glass. In May they will tour the Heinz Memorial Chapel. Contact person is Robert Stakeley.

On April 21, the **Dorflinger Chapter** will learn about *Wayne County Glass: 1806 to*



Aurice Weiss of Founders Ch.

Present. Contact Evelyn Pinkard **NY Metropolitan Glass Club** will enjoy a talk on Imperial Glass by Alfredo Villanueva-Collado on April 1. Contact Malcolm MacNeil

Cape Cod Chapter will host

Maynard Steiner, NAGC treasurer, who will present "*Treasure in a Cornfield: Glass from the Steamboat Arabia*" on April 1. On April 9 they will join with the **Founder's Chapter** for a trip to see Boston area Tiffany and La Farge stained glass windows. Cape Cod contact is Ernest Schatz.

Remember to send us your **Chapter News!** Send to Alice Walsh, editor, *Glass Shards*, 11 Bentwood St., Foxborough, MA 02035 or aswalsh@attbi.com

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DEADLINE
JUNE 1, 2003

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<http://www.glassclub.org>

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Alice Walsh, Editor, *Glass Shards*, 11 Bentwood Street,
Foxborough, MA 02035
or reach us through email at: aswalsh@attbi.com



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