



CZECH COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

October 2004

What Fun We Had!

SHOTS FROM THE 2004 CONVENTION IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS



Jerry Buchanan, Bob Stinson,
Gene & Patti Ferguson at the
Awards Dinner



The Annual Awards Dinner



Libby Fischer and Patricia
Hanicak



Patricia Colburn shops the show



A selection of items available at the show

SPECIAL THANKS TO JERRY COLBURN AND PATTI & GENE FERGUSON FOR THE PHOTOS!

President's Message

Many thanks to Henry & Carlyn Adams, Patrick & Gayle Gorden and Sherry Stevenson for their hard work on the 2004 Convention in Ft. Worth, Texas. I was unexpectedly unable to attend Convention. I have attended every Convention since the beginning and look forward to seeing everyone each year. I missed seeing each of you and the fun that we always have! From what I hear Ft. Worth was no exception.

Mary Gawle and Ronn Perrin have agreed to fill two vacant Board of Directors positions until elections next year. Thank you both. The nominating committee is working on the slate for next year. Please contact Jean Humlicek, Karl Lagler, or Barbara Plummer if you are interested in running for a seat on the Board of Directors.

Jean Humlicek, Mary Gawle and Amy Lagler have graciously offered to handle much of the work load for the remaining months of my term. If you are unable to reach me, please contact Jean Humlicek. We are staying in touch via email as we juggle our busy lives. The best way to reach me is via email at Cheryl@huntauuctions.com

Nominating Committee

The CCA Nominating Committee was appointed at our June 2004 Show & Convention in Fort Worth, TX. Committee members are; Karl Lagler, Barbara Plummer, & Jean Humlicek, Chr. The committee then met at the convention to nominate members for the Board of Directors, which according to current CCA bylaws is three (3) years. (It is possible the CCA Board will recommend to the membership the term of office be reduced to two (2) years. Length of term results will depend on the outcome of the membership's vote.) Currently, Karl is in the process of contacting the nominees. Candidate resumes will be published in the CCA January '05 Newsletter. CCA members will be mailed ballots to vote for the new CCA Board of Director members in the Spring of 2005.

Any active, dedicated CCA member who is wants to be a nominee for the Board should contact Jean (mistybravo@yahoo.com or 480-949-9425), Barbara, or Karl (karl@antelopeantiques.com or 734-663-2828)

Jean Humlicek, CCA Nominating Com. Chr.

Getting the Word Out

CCA members: How often have you wondered how many folks "out there" are collecting Austrian, Bohemian, &/or Czechoslovakian decorative arts, wanting to learn more about what they are collecting, but have never heard of CCA?? We need to inform them about our organization!! Obviously, word of mouth cannot do the job; thus, we need to tell those collectors about CCA and our Show & Convention in Gaithersburg, MD, May 20-22, 2005. Getting the word out requires PUBLICITY, like starting this coming January. CCA members in the Gaithersburg area have some outstanding ideas for publicity, but other parts of the USA, & possibly, Canada need the information. Please contact me if you would write an appropriate article, or assist with publicity in any manner!! Your assistance will be greatly appreciated!! Thanks, Jean Humlicek, Publicity Chr.

Jean Humlicek, Publicity Chr. Email mistybravo@yahoo.com Phone 480-949-9425, P.O. Box 9927, Scottsdale, AZ 85252.

AMPHORA COLLECTORS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 4th Amphora Collectors International Conference, May 21-23, 2004, was held at the Holiday Inn Somerset, Somerset, NJ. Conversations and discussions were ongoing and filled with energy at the Friday evening reception; two Amphora books were published within the past year and both authors were in attendance! Byron Vreeland who authored *Monsters and Maidens Amphora Pottery of the Art Nouveau Era* gave his talk Saturday morning. In the afternoon Richard Scott (a presenter at the 2003 CCA Conference) provided information regarding his book, *The House of Amphora*. After each presentation and early Sunday morning the Amphora dealer show room opened for attendees to see and purchase spectacular Amphora items. Saturday evening attendees took a break to view a private collection. Mid Sunday morning the two authors met with conference attendees to answer questions regarding each author's respective research and publication. The fourth Amphora Collectors concluded with a conference wrap-up prior to Sunday noon, May 23. Bea Levenhagen, a CCA member, chaired the conference. Thanks, Bea!!

For additional information the Amphora Collectors website is www.amphoracollectors.org or write; Bea Levenhagen, 10159 Nancy Drive, Meadville, PA 16335

Richard Scott has developed a website for *The House of Amphora*. It is www.thehouseofamphora.com

Byron Vreeland may be contacted at duffer@flash.net, or go to www.AMPHORAPOTTERY.NET for *Monsters and Maidens Amphora Pottery* information.

Submitted by Jean Humlicek

NEW FEATURE! Oh, Tell me a story from the HEARTBREAK O'TEL The Story of the Flying Lamp

By Patti Ferguson

Along with our collection of Czech art glass and pottery, we also collect Czech lamps. We have 30 lamps and finding a location for a new lamp is always a difficult task. We purchased a fabulous orange/red/yellow mottled, blown glass lamp that needed the perfect place to show it off. After trying several locations, I finally found the perfect place on a china cabinet in our kitchen. Because the electrical outlet was a couple of feet from the china cabinet, the lamp cord was visible. Gene told me not to leave the lamp on the china cabinet because of the exposed cord. But the lamp looked so great that I insisted it would be okay to leave it. The next day, our granddaughter Dacee' came over after school and put her backpack down on the floor next to the china cabinet. The backpack caught the lamp cord, sending the lamp flying through the air and down onto the ceramic tile floor. Glass flew in every direction. After recouping from this "slow motion" experience of watching one of our favorite lamps go down, I looked around and saw that the globe had survived in one piece. I picked it up for inspection and saw that there was not even a chip. I could not believe it! So my fellow Czech club members that is one reason why you see Czech lamp globes for sale on eBay without the bases. To say the least, I heard "I told you so" from Gene. That is the story of our broken piece of Czech glass. We eagerly wait to read stories from others about their experience in breaking a piece of Czech glass. Misery needs company!

Send in your story of your worst Czech disaster or maybe something about "the one that got away." We will all share your frustration, and feel a little better about our own disasters! Send to mary.gawle@kroger.com, or see p. 3 of this newsletter for the snail mail address.

DAVID FEIN AND DAVID PHELPS ARE CURRENTLY PREPARING AN IN-DEPTH ARTICLE BASED ON DAVID FEIN'S WONDERFUL PRESENTATION AT THE CONVENTION. IT WILL APPEAR IN THE 2005 SPRING/SUMMER ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL OF CZECH DECORATIVE ARTS. *WATCH FOR IT!*

THE CZECH POTTERY COLLECTOR

By David Fein



Photo 1: "CA" Pattern

MRAZEK

My thanks go out to all the members for their letters and kind words about the "Mrazek madness" patterns and design lecture at this past convention. At the lecture we asked the members to look over their personal collections as well as the different shows they attend for the rarer items to share with the CCA membership. Patti Ferguson of Oklahoma went through her collection and found some of the rarer items we spoke of as well as a letter on original Mrazek letterhead. Libby Frischer of New York, who's father worked for the Mrazek company has 4 pieces in the Rare "DB" pattern. Photos of these items will be included in the next issue of the *Journal of Czech Decorative Arts*. We are still looking for the "DG" pattern. Dave Phelps and I discovered a new pattern; in fact if you attended the lecture we passed around an example of the new pattern but it was unmarked. It is the "CA" pattern. (Photos 1 & 2) The 'CA' pattern is an extreme variation of the standard "C" pattern with a much more intricate fruit and flower design and embellishment of the larger flowers.

Members, thank you for the good work. Keep looking, some of our Mrazek collectors would love to add these to their collections.



Photo 2: More "CA" Pattern



Photo 3: Eichwald Lamp

EICHWALD

Vinnie and Patty Giarrusso have made a wonderful find of a Dressler Eichwald lamp in an Art Deco Egyptian motif. They have kindly shared photos of the wonderful piece with us.
(Photos 3 & 4)



Photo 4: Reverse Side of Lamp



Photo 5: Ditmar Urbach scotty napkin holder from Brazil

DITMAR URBACH

Those collectors on the hunt for Ditmar Urbach pottery do not limit yourself to the countries in North America, Europe, and Australia. Asia, and Africa were added to the list with finds in South Africa and Singapore. Lately we have discovered many items coming from South America. A rare item was just obtained from Brazil, a scotty napkin holder #14975 which is not listed in the DU catalog #194 (Photo 5). A crescent candy dish was also purchased in Uruguay.

World travelers, hit those antique districts!

If you have any contributions of interesting pottery items or finds please send them to me for consideration at "dbf57@hotmail.com"

If you have any questions about Czechoslovakian pottery email me at "dbf57@hotmail.com"
Until the next newsletter-----see you at convention in Maryland!!!!

David Fein

BEYOND VENICE Glass in the Venetian Style, 1450-1750

BEYOND VENICE Glass in the Venetian Style, 1450-1750, a current exhibit at the Corning (NY) Museum of Glass, provides a wealth of information for anyone who has an interest in Czechoslovakian, Bohemian, Austrian glass. With the combination of magnificent exhibits and accompanying texts the viewer learns how luxury glass "in the manner of Venice" influenced glass-making techniques in Austria, France, Spain, England, and Low Countries (main centers being Antwerp and Amsterdam).

Outstanding features of Venetian glass which appealed to other European populations, and were thus imitated, were: 1)"cristallo, a colorless glass that imitated rock crystal." Cristallo glass remained workable for a longer time than other glass before there was a need to reheat the glass. The properties of Cristallo allowed the glassmaker to create complex and thin glass forms. Glass of numerous colors could be made including "milk-white lattimo". 2) Rediscovering the technique to use canes of more than one color to form multicolored vessels. Later, opaque white canes and colorless canes were combined, vetro a filigrana, to provide stripe patterned decoration in a glass form. 3) Using a greater variety of molds than previously utilized. (Molds have been used to form glass items since Roman times.) 4)The Venetian glassmakers learned cristallo glass provided an excellent background for enameling and gilding. They combined gold foil with the enameled paints. 5) Refining the technique to use a diamond point instrument for engraving.

This exhibit will continue through autumn 2004. An excellent hardbound book, Beyond Venice: Glass in Venetian Style, 1500-1750, authored by Jutta-Annette Page and others, and published by Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY copyright 2004, is available.

Submitted by Jean Humlicek

Member News

CCA sends its condolences to Jean Humlicek and Joe Mattis, both of whom have lost their mothers in recent months. Our thoughts are with you both.

If you have any member news to share or have any information on upcoming shows or articles related to the Czech Decorative Arts, please let us know.

Everyone else would like to know, too!

Send information to:
mary.gawle@kroger.com
or send snail mail to:
Mary Gawle
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Please note that the current membership list has my email misspelled. If you have tried to contact me, please try again.