

Convention 2016 – Hollywood!

Special Guest Stars Announced

By Rick Jones

What Hollywood Premiere would be complete without Surprise Special Guest Stars? NCC's 2016 Convention is no different. We are pleased to be welcoming Helen and Bob Jones of Backward Glances from Berkely Springs WV as guests of NCC.

Not only are The Jones's setting up as dealers at our Glass Show for the first time, but they are also bringing along two displays. The first will be on the showroom floor introducing Friends of Cambridge and our guests to the West Virginia Museum of American Glass (WVMAG). Helen Jones is a Past President of WVMAG and its Board of Directors.

This world-class facility is located in Weston, WV and I wholeheartedly recommend that our members plan a visit. Not only do their displays span much of the history of depression glass (even companies not originating in WV), but it has a top-notch research library.

I have personally visited the museum in the last few years and I know it continues to get better and better. Did I mention they also have a gift shop?

The second display will be in the main Galleria at Pritchard Laughlin and it commemorates the 100th anniversary of the manufacturer of Stretch Glass. This milestone is being celebrated all year long by the Stretch Glass Society and The Jones' have been setting up displays far and wide in shows from Sanford FL to Rosenberg TX and to Chicago IL (20-30-40). Upcoming displays will be in Carlisle PA, Winchester VA and the NDGA National Convention in Tiffin OH this July. It will be an honor to have them in Cambridge and there will be so much we can all learn from them.

About Stretch Glass

Stretch Glass is iridescent glassware that was made by a number of American glass companies from 1916 to circa 1930. The glass is either pressed or mold-blown, and unlike Carnival Glass, has little or no pattern. It was originally made to compete with the iridescent, expensive art glass being made by companies such as Tiffany, Steuben, and Durand.

Some of the well-known companies that produced Stretch Glass were Fenton, Imperial, U.S. Glass, and Northwood. It was predominately made in transparent colors such as crystal, green, pink, yellow, and blue. Although some pieces can be found in ruby, cobalt blue, Tangerine (orange), Russet (greenish-brown), and even some opaque colors.

Stretch Glass is a term coined by collectors based on the appearance of "stretch marks" on the surface of the glass. After removal from the mold, the hot glass was sprayed with metallic salts to produce the iridescence. It was then reheated and manipulated into a final shape. The manipulation would spread the iridescent surface of the glass causing the "stretch marks".

Prior to Convention, you can learn more about Stretch Glass and the Society at www.stretchglassociety.org.

Meet Helen and Bob Jones

Helen and Bob have been collecting and buying & selling glassware since the late 1970's. Their interest in glass eventually lead to research and even purchasing glass, tools and paperwork from a closed glass factory. They have written several articles for various glass publications. They are among the foremost dealers of elegant and depression glass in the country.

The Jones's belong to the Stretch Glass Society, both are members of the Board of The Morgantown Glass Collectors Guild, and Helen is currently a Board Member and Past President of the Museum of American Glass in West Virginia.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE (or by paper) NOW. THANKS!
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