



# New England Paperweight Collectors Association

Newsletter

— Spring 2016

## NEPCA President's Message

### Spring brings new ideas

With each issue of the NEPCA, the challenge is to keep things interesting. Your board and I continue to discuss ways to make each meeting more successful than the previous one. I want to announce a couple of changes:

- For a while now we have been trying out different hotels in our search for the ideal location, if one exists. Member feedback on the Holiday Inn Marlboro venue last spring (2015) was very positive. I'm pleased to announce that we've signed contracts to go back to Marlboro for at least the next two meetings.
- The member survey last spring told us that we are spending too much time giving out prizes. We plan to speed up the process starting at the upcoming meeting.

- We're going to experiment with ways so everyone can see the "Show and Tell Paperweights" and also the prizes.
- Our members have told us that they wish we had an occasional Identification (ID) session. We will explore ways to accomplish this, but for now please remember that you can always bring paperweights to any meeting. The dealers and other experts present will be glad to give you an ID. Bring your mystery paperweights and try to stump the experts.

You should already have received your membership renewal form via USPS mail. Please check the information on your membership form, make any corrections required and return it with your dues for 2016. You can mail it

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## Spring 2016 NEPCA Meeting

**Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
265 Lakeside Ave.  
Marlboro, MA  
(508) 481-3000**

We will have two exciting speakers at this meeting. Our morning speaker will be paperweight artist David Graeber whose talk is "Forging the Future". David Graeber is one of the premier paperweight artists of the twenty-first century, having learned his craft in the studio of Paul Stankard in the nineteen-nineties. In his presentation David

will explore the creative process that goes into the designing of a new paperweight, and the technical challenges of pushing the boundaries of the traditional form. He will take us on a visual journey through this process and dazzle our eyes with the realism and perfection of his artistry.

The afternoon program features Ben Drabek speaking on "The Paperweight Collections of Josephine Turner and Harriet Smith". Harriet Smith and Jo Turner, two long-time collectors of both antique and contemporary paperweights, were both longtime members of both the NEPCA and the PCA. Jo's paperweights reflected the interests of two collectors. Most of her antique weights were given to the Turners by Jo's mother-in-law, while the contemporary pieces she acquired by herself. Harriet's collection, entirely her own, was

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Allan Port  
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## NEPCA President's Message... (continued)

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together with your registration form for the Spring Meeting.

We need some feedback on how the color email Newsletters are working out for you. Do you prefer the hard copy versions (even in black and white)? This Newsletter is shorter, do you like that better? Was the 20 page Newsletter too long to read or too long to print? We plan to keep asking these questions.

Some of the highlights of this Newsletter are:

- Spring Meeting Announcement with details on the upcoming April 16, 2016 meeting. Please plan to attend this exciting event with two great speakers: David Graeber and Ben Drabeck.
- Calendar of paperweight related events
- Past Meeting Instant Replay for our Fall 2015 Meeting.
- Special articles and announcements from our members. We have announcements for the upcoming Paperweight Fest 2016 at Wheaton Arts (Millville, NJ)

and next year's PCA Convention in Norfolk, Virginia. Plus more.

- Picture Galleries and Announcements from our Artists, Dealers, and Members. Please consider sending us a picture of one of your favorite paperweights for our next issue.

Finally, let us know what you like and don't like about our meetings and newsletter. We are always open to your suggestions. Or consider writing an article yourself. Contact information for all board members is on the links page at [www.nepaperweight.org](http://www.nepaperweight.org). Thank you for your support and encouragement.

May you find the paperweight of your dreams,



Allan Port

## Spring 2016 Meeting... (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

particularly strong in several areas: Clichy checker weights, Debbie Tarsitano pieces, Kaziun items, especially those which contained silhouettes, and Rick Ayotte magnums which featured turtles. On Oct. 1, 2004, Christie's held a sale



Rick Ayotte Bouquet with Butterfly  
Harriet Smith Collection



St. Louis Carpet Ground with Five Silhouettes  
Jo Turner Collection

of both paperweight collections at their New York auction house. Our speaker, Dr. Drabeck is a long time collector and dealer, past president of NEPCA, and past president of the Paperweight Collectors Association. He is a retired professor of English and is the author of many articles and books on paperweights.

Our Show and Tell Topic for this meeting is "Your Favorite David Graeber Paperweight or Your Favorite Recent Find". Please bring your favorite to the meeting. If you have a paperweight that doesn't exactly fit the topic, but you just want to bring it anyway to show it off, feel free to do so. If you want, you can say a few words about it before lunch, but you don't have to. We'll ask the attendees

to vote on their favorite and the top three winners will win a prize. We want everyone to have fun with this activity.

After lunch, we will have our short tutorial topic. Allan Port will give a brief talk about simple paperweight terms and IDs. This ten minute talk will be accompanied by a display set up at one of the exhibit tables.

In addition to our speakers, show and tell, and special program, NEPCA artist and dealer members set up display tables with over 1,000 paperweights to view and purchase, so each meeting is like a mini-convention. If you are staying overnight or live in the area, please plan to join us also for dinner on Friday night at a nearby restaurant. Details will be provided to those who indicate an interest on the registration form.

Please be sure to get your registration in early and don't forget include your membership renewal form with any corrections. We must receive your registration for the meeting by April 8, 2015 so we can give the hotel the final count for lunch. If you need hotel reservations, make them directly with the Holiday Inn Marlboro by Friday, March 25 (508) 481-3000. We have a block of rooms reserved at \$109 per night (plus tax). If you qualify for a Senior Rate, you should check that rate first as it may be lower.

Contact Allan Port ([president@nepaperweight.org](mailto:president@nepaperweight.org)) for more information.

## Paperweight Calendar (Upcoming Events)

- ✓ **New England Paperweight Collectors Association Spring 2016 Meeting**  
**Saturday April 16, 2016 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites**  
**265 Lakeside Ave., Marlboro, MA (508) 481-3000**  
Our speakers at this meeting will be Paperweight artist **David Graeber** and Paperweight Expert **Ben Drabeck**. David will be speaking in the morning and his title is "**Forging the Future**". Ben will be speaking in the afternoon about "**The Paperweight Collections of Josephine Turner and Harriet Smith**". In addition to the speakers, New England PCA artist and dealer members set up display tables with over 1,000 paperweights to view and purchase, so each meeting is like a mini-convention. The meeting will also have a short talk on paperweight terms and identification and a show and tell contest. Guest rooms at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites are \$109 plus tax if reserved by March 25, 2016. If you are eligible for a senior discount, book earlier and ask for the senior rate as it may be even lower.  
Contact Allan Port ([president@nepaperweight.org](mailto:president@nepaperweight.org)) for more information.
- ✓ **Paperweight Fest 2016 on May 12–14, 2016 at WheatonArts in Millville, NJ**  
See announcement elsewhere in this Newsletter. For more information, visit the Fest page at [www.wheatonarts.org](http://www.wheatonarts.org).
- ✓ **The Vermont Glass Guild (VGG)** will be the exclusive featured exhibition at the **Southern Vermont Art Center (SVAC)** at 930 Southern Vermont Arts Center Dr., Manchester, VT from May 21–July 10. There will be large glass works on display and individual displays for each artist in the main gallery as well as work for sale at the gift shop. **NEPCA Artist Member Chris Sherwin**, president and founder of the VGG, will have a paperweight display included in the exhibition.
- ✓ **Chris Sherwin Open Studio in Bellows Falls, VT on Saturday & Sunday , May 28-29, 2016**  
This event is part of the **Vermont Craft Council Open Studio Weekend** during which artists all over the state will be opening their studios. You can plan a trip to visit several artists if you wish. Chris will be demonstrating his techniques throughout the weekend and serving refreshments.  
Sherwin Art Glass, 33 Bridge St., Bellows Falls VT 05101 (802) 376-5744, [www.sherwinartglass.com](http://www.sherwinartglass.com)
- ✓ **R.A. Georgetti & Co., Olde Mystic Village, 27 Coogan Blvd., Bldg 7A, Mystic, CT, July 30–31, 2016**  
**NEPCA Artist Member Clinton Smith** will be doing live demos, presentations and showing his newest work. R.A. Georgetti & Co. has the largest selection of Clinton Smith Paperweights in the country.  
[http://www.georgetti.com/CLINTON-F-SMITH c 693.html](http://www.georgetti.com/CLINTON-F-SMITH_c_693.html)
- ✓ **83rd Annual League of NH Craftsmen's Fair, August 6-14, 2016 in Sunapee, NH**  
All of the 350 exhibitors are New England craftsmen who have gone through the League's jury process and met its rigorous standards for creativity, innovation, and technical expertise. They will be displaying outstanding quality glass and other crafts at this famous crafts fair. **NEPCA Artist Member Chris Sherwin** will be exhibiting (Booth # 7\810). If you go, stop by and say hello to Chris. He will have a selection of paperweights.  
For more information see [www.nhcrafts.org/craftsmens-fair-overview.php](http://www.nhcrafts.org/craftsmens-fair-overview.php)
- ✓ **New England Paperweight Collectors Association Fall 2016 Meeting, Saturday October 29, 2016 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 265 Lakeside Ave., Marlboro, MA (508) 481-3000**  
The program will be announced in the next newsletter. In addition to the speakers, New England PCA artist and dealer members set up display tables with over 1,000 paperweights to view and purchase, so each meeting is like a mini-convention. The meeting will also have a show and tell contest with prizes. Guest rooms at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites are \$119 if reserved by October 7, 2016. Registrations must be received by October 21.  
Contact Allan Port ([president@nepaperweight.org](mailto:president@nepaperweight.org)) for more information.
- ✓ **New England Paperweight Collectors Association Spring 2017 Meeting Saturday April 22, 2017**  
Save this date. The location and program will be announced in the next newsletter.
- ✓ **Paperweight Collectors Association 2017 Convention in Norfolk, VA April 26–29, 2017 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel and Convention Center.**  
See announcement elsewhere in this Newsletter. The PCA is planning a full program for this event including a visit to the **Chrysler Museum of Art** to view its fabulous collection of glass and paperweights. Keep an eye on the PCA's webpage for more details.  
[www.paperweight.org/conventions/17\\_convention/](http://www.paperweight.org/conventions/17_convention/)



## Instant Replay - Fall 2015 NEPCA Meeting

**Saturday October 24, 2015**  
**Courtyard by Marriott, Nashua, NH**  
**by Diane Warning & Allan Port**  
**Photographs by Mary Sayre**

Since Melissa Ayotte was our artist speaker, we had our fall meeting in Nashua, NH at a new location, the Courtyard by Marriott. Attendance was very good with over 60 members and guests registered. In addition we had quite a few public attendees for the afternoon talk by Melissa. The hotel was great. They had just renovated the facility and the ballroom was spacious and well lit. We also had the use of their new audiovisual system with split screens.

We opened the meeting with our artist and dealer fair. Nine artists and dealers set up displays. The artists were Melissa Ayotte, Chris Sherwin, Charles Kaziun, and Jim Poore. The dealers were Ben Drabeck, Leo Kaplan, Ltd., Therese McNamara, Doris & Harvey Robinson, and Allan Port. The New Bedford Museum of Glass also had an exhibit table manned by Kirk Nelson. We had a wealth of paperweights on display at this meeting as evidenced by some of the pictures in this report. We are grateful to our exhibitors for their participation. Please show your appreciation by visiting their tables at future meetings.



Therese McNamara and Nephew



Chris & Cheryl Sherwin with Ben Drabeck

We had three excellent presentations at this meeting.

Our morning speaker was Alan Kaplan, the second generation antiques dealer, Antiques Roadshow appraiser, and co-owner of Leo Kaplan LTD. Alan spoke about "One Hundred of the Finest Antique Paperweights". He dazzled us by showing us slides of the best of the best paperweights, explaining just what it is that makes a paperweight great, and finishing with the famous Pantin Bird in the Nest Paperweight.



Alan Kaplan



Pantin Bird in the Nest Paperweight

The show and tell topic was "Your favorite Melissa Ayotte paperweight or antique paperweight" and we had five entries. The three winners all brought Melissa Ayotte paperweights to show off:

1. Pam Graesser won a 2013 PCA table favor weight donated by PCA
2. Phil Bailey won a Sotheby's book donated by Allan Port
3. Janet Green won 2011 PCA table favor weight donated by NEPCA



Some of the prizes for the Show and Tell and the Raffle

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## Instant Replay - Fall 2015 NEPCA Meeting... (continued)



Our aggressive team  
(including Mary Sayre)  
sold many raffle tickets

We were very lucky to have 18 raffle items donated by NEPCA, Allan Port, Charles Kaziun, Leo Kaplan, Ed & Jim Poore, Harvey & Doris Robinson, Sandra Nix and Terry Antiques so we had some very happy raffle ticket winners.

After lunch, we had a new brief tutorial feature. Diane Warning gave an explanation of how crown paperweights are made, explaining the different methods used by Mike Hunter and Chris Sherwin. She had a table display set up that our members could examine at their leisure.



Some of Diane's Crown Paperweights



Melissa Ayotte

Clara Ayotte, former NEPCA president, surprised us with a warm, introduction for our afternoon speaker, second generation paperweight artist, her daughter, Melissa Ayotte.

Melissa spoke about "A New Vision", a new direction for paperweights focusing on the paperweight as a vessel that carries the flame-worked designs. Melissa is able to explore new ideas, techniques and creative approaches for the boundaries of the glass, the texture of the exterior surface, and the shape of the paperweight.



Melissa Ayotte Rose  
Paperweight



Melissa Ayotte 3d Bouquet in Vessel Form



End of Meeting: Last chance to view the paperweights



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## It Is Your Turn

By **Phil Edelman, President PCA**

For the past ten months the Board of Directors has embarked on a three phase approach in planning for the 2017 Convention. I am pleased to announce that phase one and two are complete.

Phase one, the selection of the host city, was straight forward. Norfolk VA was an easy choice. It is located within a fifty mile radius of both Historic Williamsburg and Jamestown and has many historic sites located within the city limits including the battleship Missouri. Last, but certainly not least, it is the home of the Chrysler Museum of Art. The museum's collection of glass is one of the most noted in the world. In addition to Tiffany and Webb cameo glass, the museum has over two hundred paperweights most of which will be on view during the convention. Additionally the museum houses an extensive collection of Decorative Arts.

Phase two, the selection of the host hotel, proved to be more difficult. Two hotels were in contention. We finally

chose the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. The hotel is located in the downtown historic district and we were able to negotiate a favorable room rate. The rate including Wi-Fi will be \$130 per night. Most important the convention itself will occupy the entire third floor of the convention center. This will provide the PCA with office space, auditorium and exhibit space within a compact area.

Phase three, the assembling of the convention program, is ongoing. A visit to the museum will be included in the program. The museum has a hot shop and we are contemplating the use of its facilities as part of the program. All suggestion for the program will be gratefully accepted.

Now one may ask why I have titled this article "It Is Your Turn". I have outlined what the Board has and continues to do for the 2017 Convention. Now it is your turn to participate. Save the dates, April 26 – 29 and plan to attend. For the latest information on the convention consult the PCA website [www.paperweight.org](http://www.paperweight.org).

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## How Do You Display Your Weights? Dessert Anyone?

By **Janet Green**

Do you have a footed cake plate, or two? If so, you may want to try this idea: stack your plates and use them to display your weights. This may work best with smaller, lighter weights. It certainly provides an eye appealing, no calorie treat.

Do you have a display idea you would like to share with other NEPCA members? Please send a photo and a description of your display to Janet Green ([archivist@nepaperweight.org](mailto:archivist@nepaperweight.org)). We will publish your photo and story in the newsletter with or without your name, as you prefer.



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## Paperweight Fest 2016

Paperweight Fest 2016, presented by WheatonArts in association with the Delaware Valley Paperweight Collectors Association, will be held May 12-14. The theme of this year's Fest is "All in the Family," a celebration of the work of paperweight artist families featuring the artistry of Ray Banford and Bob Banford. A display of their work will be presented in the Museum of American Glass. Other displays include an exhibit of past collector/artist collaborative paperweights and a pansy contest run by Jim Lefever.

On Thursday, the first day of the Fest, registrants will have the opportunity to make their own paperweight in the Glass Studio from several WheatonArts designs. In addition, they can opt for a one-on-one collaborative experience with a contemporary artist (millefiori design with Jim Brown or Damon MacNaught, or lampworking with Melissa Ayotte or David Graeber). Other events include an optional cruise on the Maurice River in the afternoon, and the opening of the Artists and Dealers fairs in the evening.

Events on Friday include the start of the pansy identification contest, presentations by John Hawley, Gay LeCleire Taylor, and Ed Poore, two "Meet the Artists" sessions, collaborative demonstrations and auction in the Glass Studio, the Dealers Fair, and a reception in the Museum of American Glass.

Saturday continues the busy schedule with presentations by Ben Drabek and Charles Kaziun III, an "All in the Family" panel discussion with Rick and Melissa Ayotte (artists), Alan Kaplan and Susie Jacobson (dealers), and John and Toby Hawley (collectors), and the results of the pansy contest with Jim Lefever. The afternoon includes the final "Meet the Artist" session, the dealers fair, and the last collaborative demonstration and auction. A banquet rounds out the Fest that evening.

Visit the Fest page on the WheatonArts website [www.wheatonarts.org](http://www.wheatonarts.org) for a complete schedule of events, a downloadable registration form, or to register on line.

## Members Gallery

### **Antique Baccarat Fantasy Flower Paperweight**

In the collection of Andrea Natsios  
(not for sale)

Andrea has had fabulous skill and luck finding great paperweights at out of the way places. She will be bringing this paperweight to our Spring Meeting for Show and Tell. Maybe by then someone will have given a name to the flower.



### **Antique Boston & Sandwich Glass Company Robins Egg Poinsettia with Lutz Rose Center**

In the collection of Andrea Natsios  
(not for sale)



## Dealers Gallery

### Rare Pantin Millefiori Paperweight with Torsade

Allan Port

Allan originally intended to list this for sale thinking it was from Val St. Lambert. Paul Dunlop has since identified this as a rare Pantin paperweight as all of the canes and the torsade match known Pantin examples. Messy appearance and incompatibility fractures. 3 1/2" diameter by 2 1/2" high.

For more information, contact

Allan Port at [aport@paperweights.com](mailto:aport@paperweights.com)

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### Rare Pantin Millefiori Paperweight with Torsade

(side view)

