



A VISION OF SHARING REALIZED

It is 4 am on a Friday morning in 2003. I just can't sleep. After making a giant cup of coffee, I head out to set up chairs on our lawn. The porch lights dimly illuminate as I arrange the chairs. The wet grass sparkles like little jewels as I work. I allow myself a minute to sit and enjoy my coffee. Within seconds I am wondering what I have gotten myself into! Panic courses through me. Has the meticulous Virgo just met her match? The vision coming to fruition overwhelms and scares me for a fleeting moment; I push those thoughts aside and get back to getting everything in order.....

Four festivals later, I can now look back at that morning and smile. After all, I shouldn't have worried so. These artists are great friends that I had asked to trust me and attend. For the most part, they were past students. They knew how we taught and had faith in us. That year I did a LOT of teaching, my husband Mike did the rest. It was a success; we were all lit and left with great inspiration to create!

As for the 4th Glass Stock last Labor Day weekend, the "staff" of 15 artists taught side by side, sharing what we have learned and honed with each new

Glass Stock. The willingness to share is what makes this event more than we could have hoped for! My longtime dream of artists collaborating and sharing skills for the enhancement of everyone's creativity is realized in grander fashion every year.

I would like to thank all of the staff for their huge efforts! They are Kim Affleck, Vickie Branch, Kristi Brokaw, Deb (that's me) and Mike Crowley, Chuck Dow, Sheila Furtwangler, Julia Lund, Kati O'Meara, Marion and Pat Ogle, Pam Pitts, Judy Walters, and Chris and Bill Webb. Another big thanks goes out to The Edge Gallery owner Ryan Bledsoe for letting us rent his studio. Our food committee of Sandee Kurz and Jacque Edinger were unable to attend this year and we missed them! We are so grateful to Ardie Andrews and staff who cooked for the last minute food service.

Of course, without our sponsors we couldn't keep the tuition so low, please let me thank them here also. They are, in order of sponsorship: The Glass Hive (our studio), Northstar Glass, Bullseye Glass, Glass Alchemy, Uroboros Glass, Frantz Art Glass, Coatings by Sandberg, Carlisle Machine, ABR Imagery, Pacific Art Glass, Olympic Color Rods,

THE GLASS HIVE
www.theglasshive.com

M&D Designs, Arrow Springs, Winship, Momka and Double Helix Glass. To Mary Hodges, owner of Carlisle Machine, who loans torches and her burner Rep Chris Camac, a huge thank you!

From small beginnings, the event has moved to 3 sites around the central Oregon coast each Labor Day weekend. 2004 was in Depot Bay in a huge building with over 75 attendees, which we found to be too large and informal. With a limit of 48 artists it has made it easier for classes, scheduling, supplies, kiln schedules and still be a part of the event. We are working towards purchasing a permanent home for Glass Stock soon!

This year we offered 28 different "projects" to choose from. Everyone picked their favorites from furnace blowing, lampworked beads and sculpture, blowing tubing, fusing, crossover lampworking, Kaiser Lee Board slumping, painting on glass, mosaics, faceting, dichroic patterning and PMCI! Special guest teachers were Barry Laffer and

Shawn Tucker, who amazed the crowd with their blowing expertise! A surprise visit from Josh and Eli Mazet, who also worked on sponsor items, was great. We completed several collaborative pieces that went to the sponsors this year as a thank you for their support. A very special Mermaid Candy dish created by Barry, Josh and Eli was auctioned off for funds to bring in guest teachers next year.



Barry on Mini CC with Kati and Deb



Deb Crowley and Chris Webb start off demos



Didi D and bead swapping girls

There are no booths at Glass Stock (I was told that was a mistake, well maybe, but it is one I plan to make every year) and just 2 of the 15 vendors that sponsor are invited to attend each year. This year we had Ross Thackery from ABR Imagery and Didi Dahlsrud from The Flow Magazine. They introduced new tools, products, articles and ideas that inspired us. Vickie Branch from M&D Designs also showed some new PMC tools and ideas. We tried out some new glass this year courtesy of Arrow Springs, Double Helix and Momka. Everyone got goodie bags with cool samples, dichroic images/pattern cuts and a Glass Stock 2006 t-shirt.

The event ran 4 days from 8 am to 10 pm, ending the Sunday before Labor Day with a big barbeque. We "jury" in attendees to make sure they have basic lampworking skills as most classes are lampwork based or deal with molten glass and heat base. The first morning consists of everyone doing a short demonstration to share with the group starting with torches, then fusing, cold working, bead finishing, electroforming and finally hot shop demos. This



Pam Pitts and Kati O'Meara Demos



Shawn's Magic Torch char



Loco seriously working

scones, muffins and fruit on Saturday morning, we headed off again into glass bliss. At lunch we talked about the evening festivities at open torch with the famous (perhaps infamous after this year) Pajama Jam. This is by far my favorite part of Glass Stock! It was inspired by my dear friend Lisa Scenti who, while at her house in Boston many years ago, insisted we torch together that day in our jammies. This was new to me but hey, they were "non-flammable" so why not? It was very liberating!

There were prizes of donated glass for the best

Jam. We each had 10 minutes, after which we swapped mandrels and completed each other's bead....with countdown master Pat Ogle taking the sandman clad dozen to a fevered pitch! The next round Loco called times as more giddy flame-aholics raced the clock while others swapped beads and watched the frenzy. What a sight to see dozens of people in weird hats and jammies driving down Hwy 101 at 11 pm!

Sunday morning we finished last projects and had drawings for demonstrations, Pajama Jam pieces and donated glass. Then we had our "fish fry" where we made fish beads that we later traded. Finally we had a super barbeque with a surprise visit from Henry and Susan of Glass Alchemy. We learned, shared, worked, laughed and sighed together with old and new friends in a rare atmosphere which nurtures and encourages the muse.

I think back to that morning in 2003 every night before another Glass Stock starts and I still can't sleep. Back to when my husband (and I admit, myself) thought I was nuts for giving up so many late night hours planning and 7 days running just for inspiration. I think inspiration is the artist's foremost necessity; a whole room full of glass is just that without it!



Sponsor stand



Undersea Garden 2005 Quilt project



Tubing Class

always brings out the nerves, especially for those newcomers. Thursday after a great lunch everyone heads off to their chosen projects for 4 hours. After dinner break it is open torch time with Borosilicate glass. Barry and Shawn put on one super demonstration after another while the rest take turns on the 14 Mini CC torches with beads, sculpture and blowing. It was amazing to see so many people showing others techniques and tools they use!

Friday morning we got the kilns unloaded and it was like Christmas with everyone running around showing off their glass! Off to 2 more classes, dinner and then Open Torch Moretti night. We tried the new Double Helix Olympia Rain and Kronos and showed others what results we got. Wow, those kilns were full!

After another wonderful show and tell over a breakfast of coffee, fresh

pajamas, slippers and hat incorporating glass. There were some adorable outfits and the hats this year were unbelievable! Pajamas prize went to Chris Camac for his drop drawers with serious Sharpie signage (don't ask, don't tell), best hat with sultry presentation went to a bead-encrusted turban on Carli Kruse and Marian Collins took home best prize for her "Floral Garden" slippers. Next we put our names in a hat and were paired off to compete in Pajama



Kristi and Shannon Brokaw at the fish fry



Vickie Kristi Kim Michelle Julia Sheila and Ardie



Kim Affleck teaching organic beads

11 MONTHS AND 4 DAYS.....