

2008 SYMPOSIUM EVALUATION REPORT

A numbered rating scale was used in the evaluation form with **7 being the highest rating** possible and **1 being the lowest rating** possible. Each session was rated individually and a separate rating was given for the Symposium as a whole.

PRE-PROGRAM EVENT

Hot Glass Participation Program at Rodi Rovner's

Score: 7.0 # of responses: 2 2007 Score: 6.5

-Great fun and satisfying results.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Registration, Welcome & Opening Comments

Score: 6.4 # of responses: 25 2007 Score: 5.7

-Bright did a great solo job on the folders – good to see fewer welcoming remarks.

-When Alan was welcoming new people I felt a little left out.

-Seemed organized and little snacks and beverages were nice.

-The facility is ideal for our Symposium. It is a beautiful facility – a shop, a museum, food, and excellent sound and audio visual facility.

-Tepid, somehow.

-Morning time could have been put to better use – too much time between speakers.

-Alan did a good job this year. It was great to have the CMOG director participate.

Exhibit of Carder Design Drawings and Other Special Materials

Score: 6.3 # of responses: 27

-More verbal presentation would have been of interest.

-I found this somewhat interesting but not overpowering.

-Thank you – feature them again – this was one of my favorite presentations. I especially liked the presentation by the Rakow Library Public Services Staff. Beth, the young woman who showed Carder’s sketch books, was very well informed about her subject and was kind enough to show a number of pages.

-Great idea!

American Scent Bottles 1770 to the Present

Score: 6.0 # of responses: 28

-Good material but she spoke too fast to absorb it all.

-Joan had a great presentation but my interest was not in 1770 era stuff.

-Because I have an interest in much more than Steuben I did find this to be a decent program.

-Her slide presentation was lovely. We all knew she was brimming over with knowledge on her subject and last year’s presentation was well remembered.

-Very informative but hastily delivered.

-The speaker did a great job filling in at the last minute. She was well prepared and the topic was well presented. However, it was not directed towards Steuben glass.

Lunch

Score: 6.6 # of responses: 25 2007 Score: 6.0

-CMoG did a great food job!

-Met old friends, everyone was friendly.

-I thought the first lunch was the best. It was very good.

Ephemera “Show & Tell”

Score: 5.5 # of responses: 21

-A verbal presentation would have been of interest.

-Didn’t seem to be either enough time or access to the table displayed material for real study.

- Presentation was excellent; would have liked a talk to the entire group.
- Show and Tell was too informal.
- There was a show but no tell. I didn't realize that this topic had concluded.

CMoG Market Display of Bases and Books

Score: 5.0 # of responses: 25

- Would have liked to see more e.g. lucite items.
- Nice of them to do it.
- Not really worth the effort.
- Nice to see the Corning/Steuben participation but it was not specifically relevant to Carder glass.

Museum Gifts, Accessions, Deaccessions & Restrictions

Score: 5.8 # of responses: 26

- Low interest on my part.
- Informative but boring.
- Ms. Spillman is a highly knowledgeable lady and her words are full of knowledge. She works.
- Enjoyed this very much! Jane and Tina were open and refreshingly honest.
- Very good presentation; very informative.
- Waste of presenters' talents.
- Topic was not really relevant. These speakers could have done such a great glass presentation on cut and engraved Steuben glass, etc.

Memories of Those Who Knew Frederick Carder

Score: 6.6 # of responses: 28

- Needed better mike volume especially for Bobby.

-The best part.

-Was proud to have witnessed history; met new friends and old friends.

-I found this fascinating.

-Would have enjoyed hearing more about his accomplishments and awards and less about his manner of expression. He was an extraordinary man and thus one could not expect him to be an average genius. The stories told were also a reflection of the person doing the telling.

-Wonderful.

-The responses given were not necessarily direct answers to Tom's questions, but was special to have Bob Rockwell's, Tom Buechner's and Amy's responses and observations.

-This oral history needs to be collected, but the presentation dragged at times.

Pizza, Wine & Fellowship

Food

Score: 6.4 # of responses: 23 2007 Score: 6.7

-Pizza was all cold.

-No soft drinks.

-Pizza was cold from the beginning.

Facilities

Score: 6.9

-Always a highlight.

-Lovely time; lovely company.

-Impeccable!

-I think the facility is outstanding.

-House and company was lovely.

-Love it.

Wine & Dessert Reception at the Carder Gallery

Score: 6.7 # of responses: 24 2007 Score: 6.6

-Wine and dessert a 7 but facility for any kind of presentation doesn't work. Few people can get to the presentation area.

-Just dazzling.

-OK, but only so many people could get close enough to Jane to actually hear her.

-A lovely and memorable evening.

-Good, as always, but Jane is not the dynamic speaker that Tom is – however, she did well!

Saturday Morning Panel Discussion

Score: 5.2 # of responses: 19

-Would have preferred specific (Carder) vs. general antiques and demographics.

-At least one panel member was out of touch with collectors market.

-I thought this was great.

-Very interesting and informative even if the messenger of unwelcome news of auction collection prices was not to attendees liking. Truth is all we have to see the market clearly.

-Since I am a collector and not a dealer, this was of little interest.

-Topic not of interest to me. David would have been better used in identification panel or speaking about glass.

Annual Business Meeting and Lunch

Score: 3.0 # of responses: 18 2007 Score: 4.7

-By-law changes are always a chore to get through. It would have made a difference if we were presented with nominees for the officers and directors right at the beginning of the meeting. Can't help the By-law procedure but the other can be helped.

-Democracy in action.

- Too much time on stuff that could have been done mostly on the web before the meeting.
- Let's have an agenda and then follow it. Send out agenda before meeting so we can go thru items quickly.
- We have got to be more prepared for next year's business meeting. Have an advance agenda ironed out by email.
- We did not fund or discuss any projects or programs.
- Lunch was good – meeting was at times a joke. I was very disappointed in the way officers were elected. Just appointing someone without a vote is not good.
- The president brought a difficult meeting to a most satisfactory conclusion. Mr. Shovers was diplomatic and pressed ahead till the decisions were made and voted on and passed. In my opinion he is impressive.
- Lunch was great, meeting was way too long.
- Business meeting was not completed in allotted time.
- Meeting lacked prior organization and lacked focus. Without Karen stepping in, the meeting would have been inconclusive.

Collector's Choice

Score: 6.7 # of responses: 18 2007 Score: 6.6

- Great display - pacing got a little tiring.
- Because of annual meeting taking so long we wanted to see the museum and then Market Street so we did not attend.
- You never know what you will see!
- The on-line photos looked great!
- I think this is a nice part of our weekend.
- Good for the members to show the passion of their collecting.
- Those collectors who bring collections from far away places deserve our special gratitude.
- Always the highlight of the Symposium.

-Concept is great. Although the presenters are not pros, they make up for it in their passion for their collections. Excellent presentations and very well organized.

Saturday Evening Banquet

Facilities

Score: 6.9 # of responses: 24 2007 Score: 6.8

Food

Score: 6.4 # of responses: 24 2007 Score: 6.6

-Food was not as good this year as last year.

-Please offer my sincere appreciation to the catering team for the gracious hospitality and good food. We had the same fine people serving us and I like their good work and attention to our needs. Jamie, one of the food servers, was charming. All I had contact with did a good job.

-Thank you to Susan Shovers for making arrangements for the Symposium.

-The vegan alternative tofu entrée was atrocious. Leather tough – better used for playing skip jack on the Chemung River just north of the Riverfront Café.

-Need better staff.

Auction

Score: 6.4 # of responses: 24 2007 Score: 5.1

-I think more items would have made it more interesting. A more serious atmosphere would be my preference.

-Wonderful evening.

-Great evening.

-A professional auctioneer makes all the difference – excellent!

-Mike did a very good job, certainly better than last year. I do believe the auction needs a limit of 50 items.

-How about a beautiful young woman holding the auction items for bid. A little introduction about how to show the piece to best advantage would perhaps increase the bidding.

-Having a professional auctioneer was just terrific!

-Auction was well done – pieces could have been more interesting – lots of fun.

-Good auctioneer!

-I liked the auctioneer. He had the right mix of fun and professionalism, and kept the auction on time.

OVERALL SYMPOSIUM RATING

Score: 6.0 # of responses: 26 2007 Score: 6.2

Additional comments on this year's Symposium:

-An excellent Symposium – thanks to all who made it so! Great subjects, great people, great glass, great food.

-Would like to see the emphasis back on Carder Steuben product and processes – too many semi-related subjects this year.

-It was very, very good!

-Just wonderful.

-Glad to see Alan is going to be president till 2010!!!

-Run a business meeting.

-Overall a terrific weekend. Organizers did very well considering all the problems with the presenters not being able to attend.

-I didn't attend a lot of the events as I was working during the day Friday and had some odd jobs to do on Saturday. This is a nice event for all of us who attend. I always learn lots from everyone.

-It would have been a 7 had it not been for the panel discussion and business meeting. The Club is being moved towards a forum and outlet for high-end dealers rather than a place for learning and appreciation of the glass.

-I thought Symposium was very good. My one concern is, was a 3 person board of directors created to keep one group of persons always running the club.

-Loved it!

-It was informative and enjoyable. I enjoyed seeing objects in the Museum and especially historic early American glass from 1840 as it related to William Henry Harrison, our 9th President.

-Being a first time participant, would it be possible to have a list of names and addresses of people attending? Everyone was so warm and welcoming. It would be nice to be able to contact those who volunteered information. We have names but no addresses or phone numbers. We felt welcome and look forward to attending again.

-Thanks for all the good work that went into organizing it. Much appreciated.

-All I can really say is that I totally enjoyed the Symposium this year. I always enjoy seeing everyone and the time we all share together is something that I cherish.

-Great bunch of folks.

-Very nice meeting other collectors.

-Good job – enjoyed this Symposium, as always.

-Not very inspiring. Very little glass was present during the Symposium (apart from Collector's Choice). Not enough focus on the technical aspects of glass (Brent Wedding skirted around the technology during his presentation). ID clinic should be restored.

-Sorry, I found the Symposium dull and academic. Not enough glass and glass discussion. I don't think there was much of interest for beginner collectors. I hope we can learn from this. One of the more interesting topics was David's eagle centerpiece, not even on the formal agenda.

Suggestions for next year's Symposium (including possible subjects to cover):

-Slate of officers (nominations) prepared ahead.

-See if Greg Merkel would report on his efforts; A "how it's made" using a gaffer and some complex Carder shapes.

-Have Steuben books signed and available at the meeting. Also if you want attendance like this year make sure it doesn't conflict with our religious holidays.

-Give out list of people who attend.

-David Donaldson; Reyne Haines – effect of internet on collecting.

-How about a workshop for collectors who would like to mentor beginning collectors. Set up program and discuss some ground rules.

-I think a general show and tell with identification should be included. Several members said they looked forward to this. This allows people to show something they're proud of or find out if a piece is Steuben or not. I know several people were showing pieces they brought. This also includes everybody which I believe is a good thing. You won't generate excitement if you don't let people participate.

-How early glass has influenced the designs of today or up to Carder's time and including his work. Shapes, designs, colors, patterns repeated, subjects expressed in glass and if available women who influenced the art of glass making.

-Leverage the program for the year's CMOG Seminar on Glass; Have a breakfast or a lunch in the Carder Gallery in Building B; Ask Jane Spillman to explore/present connections between Tiffany, Nash and Carder; Ask Tina Oldknow to explore/present Carder's influence on contemporary glass artists; Have Bill Gudenrath duplicate a Carder design.

-The influences on Carder's glass –shapes (e.g. Greek), surface decorations (e.g. art nouveau), processes (e.g. lost wax, diatreta), color names (e.g. Tyrian).

-Frederick Carder – the years prior to 1904. (Stevens & Williams, etc – his influences in his first 40 years.)

-Wichita Museum.

-Auctioneers' comments on market value of Carder Steuben as compared with other glass of the same period.

-Back to basics day is sorely needed. Mark Buffa's talk on fakes, ID Clinic, Tom Dimitroff speaking about Mr. Carder, etc. to get beginners involved.

-More for beginners – definitely an ID clinic and introduction to the web site line drawings. A theme comparing Tiffany and Steuben would be of interest to both groups, e.g. comparing the glass, business operations, technology of iridescence and current status. Perhaps two lawyers could debate the Tiffany/Steuben lawsuit!