



Fall / Winter
2009

shore lines

The View from Here

by Mary Beth Beuke
President, North American Sea Glass Association

Dear Reader,

In the last edition of shorelines I discussed the positive personality of the “sea glass community.” And with this issue comes some great news in relation to the community.

For years, it’s been the desire of NASGA to develop an online resource for the collecting community. A site that’s more than a webpage but a gathering hub with multiple interactive options to get info updates, share photos and stories with each other, identify pieces and build on our love for sea glass. And with the help of a team of true collecting enthusiasts, that dream has become a reality!

You, as an important part of the sea glass community are invited to join in. It’s easy, quick and everyone’s warmly welcome! Just click Seaglass.Ning.com to jump in.



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NASGA Cares...

This year NASGA has made donations of \$2,500 to the Surfriders and \$1,500 to the Presque Isle Partnership.

2009 Sea Glass Festival, Erie, PA

On October 17th and 18th, 2009, beachcombers from across America will assemble in Erie, Pennsylvania at the fourth annual North American Sea Glass Festival. The event will feature artisans and collectors of this popular coastal collectible.

The public is welcomed for a week-end admission charge of \$5.00. Children 12 and under are admitted free of charge.

Visit www.seaglassassociation.org for more information.

In addition to lectures and seminars the “Shard of the Year” contest will be held awarding a \$1,000 cash prize to the collector with the most rare and desirable piece of sea glass. The contest will be judged by board members of NASGA.

The festival is being held in Erie’s Bayfront Convention Center.

Do you have a piece of sea glass that might be the next “Shard of the Year”?

Get more info about the contest by clicking [Shard Contest](#).



Collector Interview: Christeen Pozniak



NASGA: How did you become interested in collecting sea glass?

Pozniak: I became interested in collecting sea glass about 8 years ago when I found some pretty green pieces on the beach in Italy. I brought them home, made a pretty candle centerpiece with them.

NASGA: What is it about sea glass collecting that you enjoy?

Pozniak: I really love the roundness and smooth texture of the glass as well as the colors. Once I started researching the colors and the history, I became really intrigued with where the glass came from and how old it was and what it had gone through to that point. For me, each piece of glass has a history, a story and besides it being beautiful to look at, for me, it holds a kind of mystery.

NASGA: Where do you collect your sea glass?

Pozniak: I collect my glass along the beaches of the Riviera in Italy (near Genoa). My husband is from there, so we go back regularly to visit his family. Because the area has been a historic shipping port (Columbus was from Genoa after all), there are a lot of pieces of very old, well worn glass from ships and old, deep green wine bottles.

NASGA: Can you share one of your memorable beachcombing experiences?

Pozniak: I especially like the winter, in the evenings when there is no-body on the beach and the air is so clear that sometimes, you can see the mountains of Corsica over 100 miles away in the Mediterranean.

NASGA: What are some of your other favorite pieces of sea glass?

Pozniak: Some of my favorite is my black glass. I love it because I know that it is so very old. Some of this glass is from pre 1900, when



sailing ships would dump their glass overboard before entering the port (so as not to pay for the off-loading). I love it when I find old, handcrafted bottle lips. Perhaps it sounds a bit corny, but I like to imagine the old sailors and the stories they told while drinking with that bottle. I also love the unique colors I find, like my oranges and cool shades of sun-changed grey.

I have done quite a bit of research on the glass and know that much of my glass is from old sailing vessels.

NASGA: Do you know the origins of these pieces?

Pozniak: I have done quite a bit of research on the glass and know that much of my glass is from old sailing vessels. I also have some dish ware that I found that I have traced its' history.

NASGA: What do you do with your sea glass?

Pozniak: Right now, I have taught myself to drill the glass and I would like to try my hand at making jewelry one day. I also always keep a beautiful rounded piece of black glass with me in my pocket, when I am stressed, I like to rub it between my fingers, kind of like a stress rock, I find it helps keep me calm and focused. I also have some old bottles with my glass as decoration as well. I do sell much of my glass to collectors and artisans on the internet so they can make beautiful things from my findings.

NASGA: Do you have a sea glass collecting tip you would like to share with us?

Pozniak: I would say that my glass finding tip is to enjoy the hunt. Look up sometimes and enjoy the beautiful ocean and sky. I also do not believe that you should destroy the beaches in search of your treasure. They are there for everyone to enjoy and collect, digging trenches and taking bucketfuls at a time, I believe, crosses the line from just being an enjoyable hobby. Sea glass is a vanishing treasure and must be respected as such. The ultimate recycling, past trash into today's treasures.

Christeen Pozniak lives in West Palm Beach, FL



My "Peace" of Sea Glass

by Susan Jostrom

My son, Zeke (Ezekiel: He who is strengthened by God) was born September 16, 1978 with a three-chambered, "scrambled" heart, as doctors referred to it. His thirty years of life were filled with courageous battles: three open-heart surgeries, a myriad of life-threatening illnesses, and subsequent life-limiting complications. But Zeke faced life with contentment and deep joy, never complaining or questioning his inabilities. He accepted himself and lived a life of unshakable faith.



Zeke Jostrom, age 30.

Zeke died May 7, 2009. On June 7 my husband, Mike, and I set out on a seven-mile hike in search of a remote but well-known sea glass beach in the Pacific Northwest. The day was perfect for sea glass searching: overcast, a Spring tide, and calm after a storm. Although I have sleuthed for treasures from the shore all my life, I am relatively new to the art of sea glass searching. My collections

consist of beach-tiles from China, conch shells from the Virgin Islands, and twisted driftwood from long-forgotten sands.

Mike commented with some determination as we hiked, "We need to find a red heart." I scoffed. Arriving at the beach, we strolled, back bent, zigzagging from high to low-tide marks. Dazzled, we exclaimed to each other with each exquisite new find: perfectly rounded and cloudy gems of cobalt, purple, teal, turquoise, yellow, red – orange! The colors of the wheel under the soft gray skies were unending.

I like to imagine that the sun burst through the clouds, the trumpet sounded, and the tides yielded as Mike shouted, "The Red Heart! Here! Look!" and my feet soared across the beach like a slow-motion movie, my soul knowing though it is beyond knowing that Zeke was calling to us, "Hey! Mom and Dad! It's me, Zeke!

I am free! I am whole! I am healed! Don't be sad for me; they even have iPods here!"

In truth, Mike picked up the red heart and stared for a minute, then quietly walked to my side and said nothing, simply opening the palm of his hand. We stood in silence, our heads touching, our arms wrapped around each other's waist.

I am grateful to tell this story to an audience I am certain can understand the exaltation of finding what most might consider nothing more than a discarded shard of garbage. And I especially want to thank Richard LaMotte for extending his words of wisdom: "Of all the healing stories I've heard I must say your red heart piece of sea glass has to be the most stunning of all. There IS a great healing power where water meets the shore. Maybe I should have called it your 'peace' of sea glass."

Susan Jostrom lives with her husband Mike in Seattle, WA.



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Do you have a sea glass story you would like to share?

Tell us about it. Send an email with a brief description and a photo (if available) to info@seaglassjournal.com.

Sea Glass: The Ultimate Survivor

by Christine "Cissy" White

Once, from a source, each piece of sea glass belonged to a bigger whole. Each one has a mystery history but brokenness is central to every story. It matters little if the original glass was once a fancy pink pitcher pouring lemonade at the table of a beach side cottage. The glass may have been stolen by a violent storm rising and waters pouring herself into homes reckless and taking prisoners back with the tide. Some bottles may have been cracked in anger, in fits or fights between lovers of soldiers, and flown into the air as witnesses unable to report crimes. Others were Coke bottles left behind by a distracted child after a lengthy family picnic on a warm and beautiful day. Perhaps children played in tidal pools and make drip castles as parents left imprints of their feet in the sand not concerned with the tide which would wash over and erase them.

The history of sea glass can be guessed at but each piece is a discarded refugee ripped from what was once home. Each piece is forced to travel alone and does not get to say, "Break me here. I want to occupy this shape and size." No sea glass can envision the shape or texture it will become. If it could, it would know the original shape to be temporary and we aren't made to know the future.

Those shattered pieces at first are sharp and fragile, dangerous to bare feet and unused to the cold new home of icy water. They must survive currents taking them into choppy waters, to depths and distances unknown. Others are left on shore baking in the sun because the water can't retrieve them. They are dumped on shore as if shipwrecked passengers waiting for rescue and dying of thirst.

But none are left alone as mystical magic transforms. Mother Nature files rough edges and Father Time makes the glass grow a new thick "skin" with a protective hardness and frost. Each broken shard returns to a new wholeness. These holy gems are my symbol of transformation. Even the pieces discarded or thrown away as litter or trash will become a touchstone. Pieces, once disowned by accident or intention, become valuable again. In new shape and size, unrecognizable, they become sought after, appreciated and treasured.

Each piece is an old soul newborn. Sea glass is the ultimate survivor.

First published at www.seaglassgirl.wordpress.com.



Sea Glass

A Poem by
Bruce Clark Dick

On any beach and anywhere
We pick the sea glass lying there.
On smooth worn edges, our fingers run
We hold it up against the sun
And wonder, if twice round the world it's been
And seen the places we can only dream.

Ending washed up on this distant land,
The sea glass I'm holding in my hand.
It once was clear, now like frosted ice,
Its feel is tactile, smooth and nice.

My friend, she says, dark blue is rare.
I haven't seen it anywhere.
Others, the clear, the brown and green
On other beaches I've often seen.
I've found them speckled on the sand,
But never dark blue has come to hand.



Have you created something with sea glass?

Tell us about it. Send an email with a brief description and a photo (if applicable) to info@seaglassjournal.com.



Sea Glass Festival Agenda

Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA

Friday, October 16th

4:00 PM Exhibitor Set Up

6:00 PM Commercial Members Meeting

Saturday, October 17th

10:00 AM Exhibition opens

10:00 AM Shard identification booth opens

11:15 AM Lecture "Natural Glass and Beach Oddities"
Scott McKenzie, Mercyhurst College

12:00 PM to 6:00 PM Entries begin for the *Shard of the Year Contest* in Room 140

12:30 PM Lecture "Puerto Rican Rum Tales and Tropical Rainbows"
Lisl Armstrong, Out of the Blue

1:45 PM Lecture "The Passionate Collector"
Celia Pearson, Celia Pearson Photography

3:00 PM Lecture "A Visit With Joe Root"
Brian Gula, Tom Ridge Environmental Center

4:15 PM Lecture "Sea Glass Identification"
Richard LaMotte, Sea Glass Publishing

6:00 PM Exhibition Closes

Sunday, October 18th

10:00 AM Exhibition opens

10:00 AM Shard identification booth opens

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Entries continue for the *Shard of the Year Contest* in Room 140

11:00 AM Lecture "The Archaeology of Beachcombing"
Deacon Ritterbush, Author; Dr. Beachcomb; Archaeologist

12:15 PM Lecture "The Worlds oldest and still most popular toy, the marble"
Michael Cohill, Akron Toy and Marble Co.

1:30 PM Lecture "History of the US Brig Niagara"
Lance Barclay, Flagship Niagara League

2:45 PM Lecture "Around the World Adventures in Sea Glass"
Mary Beth Beuke, West Coast Sea Glass

3:00 PM Judging begins for *Shard of the Year Contest* in room 140

3:30 PM Lecture "The Changing Waters of Lake Erie"
Jerry Skrypzak, Erie Photographer and Historian

4:30 PM *Shard of the Year Contest* winners announced

5:00 PM: Exhibition Closes

NOTE: Lectures will be held in Grand Ballroom East.



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Sea Glass Festival Exhibitors

Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA

Annapolis Sea Glass Studio

Ellie Mercier
Knoxville, MD

The Studio's signature sea glass bracelets, driftwood mirrors, and beach glass speckled hair combs, delight even the most selective of retail & wholesale buyers, alike. We also sell photographs, stationary, and mobiles.

Baubles-N-Beads by Paula

Paula M Fedele
Centerville, MA

Unique necklaces, bracelets & earrings created from my collection of "jewels from the sea." I use varied styles of sterling silver wire to wrap pendants & drilled pieces in my bracelets and earrings.

Beach Baubles

Marianna Bellantoni
Staten Island, NY

Wind chimes, sun catchers, ornaments, jewelry, and accessories.

Beach Bum Jewels

Linda Mickevicius
Michigan City, IN

Authentic, beach/sea glass jewelry featuring beach glass tumbled by Mother Nature. Bezel set pieces are artisan crafted by Beach Bum Jewels using only fine and sterling silver. Other enhancements may include pearls, crinoids (fossils), Swarovski crystals and glass beads.

Beach Glass Bingo

Red Nockengust & Gene Allen
San Diego, CA

Hand made beach glass jewelry including necklaces, bracelets, earrings, & rings.

Beach Glass Gone Wild

Kelly Chess
North Versailles, PA

Beautiful pieces of beach glass that are hand picked from the shores of Lake Erie are transformed into beautiful pieces of jewelry. All of Kelly's pieces are reflective of her fun and friendly personality.

Cottage Industry

Susan Ventura & Sarah Clements
Towson, MD

Our jewelry is created from genuine Lake Erie beach glass with semi-precious gemstones and silver. We create earrings and necklaces with treasures from the beach.

Cristallo Dolce

Diane Ventrello & Scott Steckler
Erie, Pennsylvania

Brilliant, varied colors of Lake Erie beach glass, handcrafted into original designs of stunning sterling silver jewelry, shadow boxes, frames, key chains, and sun catchers.

English Sea Glass

Penny Parker
UK

English Sea Glass provides a range of jewelry made from Genuine English sea glass, t-shirts, postcards, hand carved sea glass bubble boards and a book about English sea glass.

From the Point of You

Lori DeSalvo
Old Field, NY

A 35 minute documentary on beach/sea glass collectors and what they do with their finds. This documentary premiered at the Lewes Delaware Festival in 2008!

Gull Cottage Crafts

Merrideth Wickman
Swansea, MA

One-of-a-kind stained glass panels incorporating genuine sea glass and pottery found along beaches in South Eastern Massachusetts. Also: sea glass lamp shades, ornaments, and pyramids.

iSea Designs

Monica Branstrom
San Clemente, CA

iSea Designs focuses on genuine sea glass jewelry using sterling silver and gold. Most of the designs are accented with other natural elements such as gemstones and freshwater pearls.

Jewelry by Katie Carrin

Katie Carrin
Oakland, CA

Genuine English sea glass, pearl and gemstone jewelry.

Just For You Unique Gifts

Michele J Buckler
Lewes, DE

Jewelry crafted from natural sea glass shards and sea glass themed note cards and prints.

K & K Sales

Kim Korinke
Simi Valley, CA

"Got Sea Glass? We do... jewelry and home decor items."

Lake Erie Beach Glass

Jodie Pastor
Fairview, PA

LEBG creates an eclectic array of authentic beach glass jewelry as bezel set pieces and wire wrapped pieces, as well as pieces incorporating precious metals and other beach found materials. We offer loose sea/beach glass, art cards, and coming soon will be our first published book on Lake Erie Beach Glass!

Lovely Glass Works

Lynne Lovely
Saunderstown, RI

My designs incorporate stained glass along with sea glass. I use the Tiffany method of construction to create window panels, candle shelters, lamps, unique stars, and one of a kind home accessory's.

Exhibitors *from page 6*

Low Tide Jewels

Margaret Miller
Kill Devil Hills, NC

All types of jewelry in 14k gold, gold-filled and sterling silver including tiaras. I also make frames and hanging ornaments and often include pearls and gem-stone beads in the pieces.

Marooned Crab Creations, LLC

Bonnie C. Gordon
Phoenix, AZ

Jewelry made from sea glass, shells, pearls and precious metals.

Out of the Blue Sea Glass Jewelry

Lisl Armstrong
Englewood, FL

Sea glass jewelry handmade with sea glass from all over the world.

Relish, Inc. Jewelers Studio & Gallery

Jennifer & Terri Reed
Erie, PA

Hand crafted sterling silver & or 14K gold jewelry using authentic beach glass from the shores of Lake Erie.

Santa Cruz Sea Glass

Krista Hammond
Santa Cruz, CA

I create handmade silver jewelry using sea glass found in the Monterey Bay Sanctuary. Each piece is a one of a kind original creation.

Sea Glass Designs

Bruce & Gail Baron
Green Cove Springs, FL

Sea glass jewelry made with wire wrapping, drilled and set in sterling silver bezel. All sea glass comes from the Abaco Islands.

Sea Glass Jewelry by Danielle Renee

Danielle Renee Mullen
Haverhill, MA

Authentic & unique sea glass jewelry in both silver & gold sea glass pendants, necklaces, bracelets, & earrings. All items are hand made by Danielle Renee.

Sea Glass Jewels and Co.

Christeena H. Minopetros
Big Pine Key, Florida

Sterling silver sea glass jewelry-sea glass photo book & note cards and sea glass painted art.

Sea Glass Journal

Gary DeBlois
Bristol, RI

I sell sea glass jewelry, photos, wall hangings and mobiles. Also on display will be sea glass from around the world along with various sources.



Sea Glass Publishing/Chesapeake Sea Glass

Richards & Nancy LaMotte
Chestertown, MD

Pure sea glass, the definitive guide for collectors and beach-combers, plus the NEW shard I.D. card deck, pocket journal and guest book a long with owner, Nancy LaMotte's sea glass jewelry.

Sea Glass Treasures

Anne Marie Johnson
Holcombe, WI

Pendants, whimsical birds nest necklaces, bracelets, post and dangly earrings, jewelry sets, bookmarks, key chains, and pictures.

SMP Metal Smith

Steve Pawloski
Sarasota, FL

A unique combination of rare found objects with precious materials. Elevating a once worthless material to a prized status.

Souris By The Sea

Romeo Gallant
Souris, Prince Edward Islands

Sea Glass, crosses, maps, nautical ship wheels, and jewelry.

Spirit of the Sea

Dianne McLaughlin
Downingtown, PA

Our jewelry is designed around genuine sea glass to capture the warmth of the sun and the spirit of the sea...year round.

suegray seaglass jewelry

Suegray Fitzpatrick
Newport, RI

Fascinated by the beauty and mystery of sea glass, Suegray has been creating unique sterling silver wire wrapped and bezel set sea glass jewelry and ornamental sea glass wreaths for almost 20 years.

Suncoast Sea Glass Jewelry

Valerie Weston
Odessa, FL

Hand crafted sterling silver pendants, earrings and bracelets featuring authentic sea glass from around the world. Fine silver textures and freshwater pearls.

The Beach Glass Store

Patti Gallican
Buffalo, NY

Genuine, unaltered beach glass having been found on the shores of Lake Erie portrayed as pictures in frames. All of the pieces are our original ideas and art work.

The Earthlings

Jayne Hawley
Monterey Bay, CA

3-D sculptures using California sea glass, pottery shards, and driftwood, uniquely accented with air plants. Also, carry loose sea glass for earrings, pendants, and trio sets.



Exhibitors *from page 7*

Tears From The Deep

Cindy Kuhn
Gahanna, Ohio

Lovely and unique sea glass jewelry crafted from some of the most beautiful sea glass found any where in the world.

Toasted Waffle Studios

Trenton Lutes
Westfield, NY

Beautifully captured, bright and colorful beach glass photographs.

Tropical Sea Glass

Sharon Umbaugh
The Islands of Hawaii

Sea glass collections and individual collector pieces found on Hawaii's beaches.

Turtle Treasures

Bonnie J Mohrbacher
Rochester, PA

Turtle Treasures are quite unique and really something different made with beach glass! I make (primitive art) Turtles for the garden or home exclusively from the Treasures: rocks, pebbles, beach glass, pottery shards, and shells that I pick up bit by bit along the southern shores of Lake Erie.

Uniquely Sea Glass LLC

Liane MacDonald
Ashburn, VA

Uniquely Sea Glass LLC creates one-of-a-kind earrings, rings, necklaces, and bracelets with sterling silver, pearls, gems, and stones with each having its own carefully-chosen name.

Washed Up Gems

Mary Beth Carlson
Irwin, PA

Beach glass jewelry-earrings, necklaces, bracelets, anklets, rings & watches. I also make art work, "barefoot" sandals, and beach glass embellished flip-flops & T-shirts. Wine charms, wine bottle stoppers & embellished silverware & salad spoons.

West Coast Sea Glass

Mary Beth Beuke & Lindsay Furber
Sequim, WA

Featuring the Pacific Ocean's rarest colors & specimens of loose, bulk sea glass lots, fine sterling silver, bezel set rings, bracelets, & more. Rarity charts, rare glass floats & sea glass photos.

Festival travel & lodging information:

Find travel and lodging information for the 2009 Sea Glass Festival being held in Erie, PA by clicking [Lodging](#), [Tourism](#) or [Bayfront Convention Center](#).

See a photo album of last year's festival in Lewes, DE by clicking [Festival '08!](#)

Courtesy of
Google Maps

Seaglass.Ning.com

Interested in becoming part of our sea glass community?

Just click Seaglass.Ning.com to find out how.

NASGA Newsletter designed by
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