



**We Present “The Dream Team” for the
2022 ACGA Convention in Rockwall, Texas
July 13-16, 2022**

by Convention Co-Chairs Tom and Carol McWhirter

A variety of educational opportunities await attendees to the 2022 ACGA Rockwall Convention. An impressive list of cut glass experts will give presentations on a wide range of interesting and educational topics. You won't want to miss any of these speakers and the chance to increase your knowledge about American Brilliant Period cut glass!

Jim Asselstine will be speaking on “The Centennial International Exhibition of 1876.” The first official world's fair in the United States was held in Philadelphia to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Jim will trace the evolution in design in the American luxury glass industry from the 1850s and 1860s to the designs shown at the centennial exhibition.

Jim spent his forty-year career in government and the financial services industry. His government service included five years as a commissioner on the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Jim is the founder, president, and director of the Dorflinger Factory Museum in White Mills, Pennsylvania. He is a past chairman of the Dorflinger-Suydam Wildlife Sanctuary, which owns and operates the Dorflinger Glass Museum. He has also served as president of both the ACGA and the Fellows of the Corning Museum of Glass.

Chris Carnahan will be presenting “Tuthill Cut Glass Company, To Be Something...” This presentation is an examination of the main drivers in the transformation of the Tuthill Cut Glass Company into one of the finest intaglio cutting firms of the early twentieth century. As evidence of the transformation, Chris will provide a look at some of the glass Tuthill produced. He will also explore the relationship between Charles Tuthill and Louis Comfort Tiffany and provide a brief epilogue to the Tuthill Cut Glass Company story.

Chris spent 40 years in the nuclear, automotive, aerospace, and healthcare industries. He is a long-time antique and cut glass collector, concentrating on Tuthill cut and Tiffany art glass. Chris has created a digital library of photos of over 1000 pieces of Tuthill and Tiffany glass.

Martin A. Folb will share with us two presentations. The first, titled “Let There Be Light,” deals with the discovery and restoration of a fabulous 9' 2" cut glass floor lamp that was created for the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. The second presentation is “Fortune's Journey.” This program will look at the lifestyles of the “gilded age” with emphasis on art, architecture, and, of course, American Brilliant cut glass and will include photos of some of the rarest and most extraordinary pieces.

Martin is a research physicist who heads his own multi-divisional company, MAF Industries. He is best known for his work in advancing photographic technologies. Martin has won numerous photographic awards and has served as a consultant with Eastman Kodak for over 25 years.

LindaJo Hare, an avid researcher, will speak on “Producing the Blank Canvas for the Cutter's Art.” She will provide us a behind-the-scenes tour of some of the aspects of cut glass production that are rarely highlighted. The lengthy process that went into gathering the raw materials and the special requirements for creating the leaded glass blank have their own interesting stories. LindaJo will show images of the basic methods of production and how blanks were shaped.

LindaJo operated her own graphics design business for many years. It appears her second “career” has been a labor of love for the many contributions she has made to the ACGA. She has published two books on cut glass, has served on the ACGA Board, and is currently Research Committee Chair, Gifts and Acquisitions Co-Chair, and serves on the ACGA Catalog Committee. She is a passionate researcher and a major contributor to *The Hobstar* with over 120 published articles!

Michael Manginella will take us in a different direction with his program, “Little Wheels: The Fine Art of Copper Wheel Engraving.” Like all the motifs and patterns we love in cut glass, the art of engraving has its own story. The tools, the artists that use them, and the glass decorations that are created are the highlights of this talk. When the basic signatures of the tools are revealed, the pictures will tell the story.

An electrical engineer, Mike shifted into software sales over 30 years ago. Still, his engineering side seeks to understand the hows and whys of all areas of interest. Mike has been researching glass for as long as he has been collecting. He has presented programs at seven ACGA conventions and has been a speaker at the Corning Museum of Glass, the Steuben Symposium, and many regional meetings. Mike has also authored articles on glass for national magazines.

Judy Northup will explore an area that we do not believe has ever been presented at a past convention. Her topic will be “That Confounded Canadian Cut Glass.” Judy will answer many questions regarding Canadian glass, including whether Canadian cut glass copied American Brilliant cut glass or whether we were copying them. Judy has great photos and very interesting information to share.

Judy began as an entry level accountant at Vought Aircraft Industries and retired 26 years later in 2006 as the Chief Administrative Officer. Judy has been a speaker at several ACGA conventions, presenting her research on women cutters during the American Brilliant Period, cut glass of the Meriden Cut Glass Company, and the Unger Brothers Cut Glass Company. She is a past president of ACGA and remains active as an administrator of the Facebook ACGA Discussion Group.

Rob Smith will be presenting “Wishful Thinking: Odd and Unusual Cut Glass,” a whimsical but educational look at many of the unique shapes and functions of cut glass that only he could present in a most entertaining way. Rob and his wife, Val, have spent over a year researching and gathering photos that will be shown in this presentation.

Rob has been an ACGA member since 1990 and has active memberships in three local chapters. He is the director of the LABAC Group, has written numerous articles for *The Hobstar*, and is responsible for the publication of several dozen important cut glass books with information not available elsewhere. Rob, who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri, had a career in computer science and has presented several cut glass photography workshops at past conventions.

You can enjoy all these speakers at the ACGA 2022 Convention in Rockwall, Texas, on July 13-16. To register for the convention as well as make hotel reservations, go to the ACGA website (www.cutglass.org) to find links to sign up online. We look forward to seeing you there!