

THE MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS CENSUS NEWSLETTER NUMBER 9 * JANUARY 2005

A bimonthly e-mail report on activities and other stained glass news from the Michigan Stained Glass Census at the Michigan State University Museum, East Lansing, MI 48824 * <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/index.html>

The Michigan Stained Glass Census has been an advocate for the documentation and preservation of architectural stained glass since 1992. Michele Beltran, Barbara Krueger and Betty MacDowell, Co-Directors.

RECENTLY REGISTERED WINDOWS

MSGC 94.0028. Temple Emanuel, Grand Rapids, MI. The Ruth and Boaz Window, created in the 1920s by the Louis C. Tiffany Studios of New York City. Registered by June Horowitz and Barbara Robinson with photography by Peg Finkelstein and Deborah P. Mankoff, all of Grand Rapids.

MSGC 04.0020. St. Joseph Catholic Church, Saginaw, MI. Forty-eight windows made ca. 1923 by the Munich Studio of Chicago, IL, for the old church, constructed in 1919 and razed in 2003. Four windows were restored and installed in the new church, constructed in 2003, seven windows are in storage for future use and other windows were sold at auction in 2003. Registered by Suzanne Ramos of Breckinridge.

MSGC 04.0021. First United Methodist Church, Midland, MI. One hundred and ninety-two windows created between the 1940s and 2000, most of them designed by Helene Rother of Detroit and Karen Miller Gallup of Ann Arbor. Registered by Marilyn Clark of Midland.

RECENT "WINDOWS OF THE MONTH" ON THE MSGC WEB SITE

December 2004. Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. These airy, stylized depictions of the Creation and Nativity were designed for the church sanctuary by Rich Buswell and fabricated by Lynchburg Stained Glass of Lynchburg, VA and completed in 2000. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/dec04.html>

January 2005. The Michigan League, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. The 1929 windows of this former building for women students were designed by the Chicago architectural firm of Pond and Pond and fabricated by the Linden Glass Company of Chicago. They include a large window with allegorical

figures and multi-denominational chapel windows featuring a variety of religious symbols.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/jan05.html>

WINDOW OF THE MONTH "FLASH BACKS"

December 2002. Cathedral of St. Andrew, Grand Rapids, MI. Nearly 26 feet in height, this majestic Nativity scene by the Munich studios of F. X. Zettler and Mayer & Co. was completed between 1912 and 1915.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/dec02.html>

January 1999. Mariner's Church, Detroit, MI. This intriguing 1955 rose window by the J. and R. Lamb Studios combines religious and maritime imagery.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/jan99.html>

NEW TO OUR WEB SITE: The Stained Glass Museum, in the Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire, U.K., has an electronic newsletter that they release twice a year. The October 2004 issue of the Stained Glass Museum Friends Newsletter is now downloadable in PDF format from the "Newsletter Resources" page of our site: <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/listserv.html> The web site for the Stained Glass Museum is at <http://www.stainedglassmuseum.com/>

STAINED GLASS ON THE WEB

Van Pelt Library, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI
<http://www.lib.mtu.edu/mtuarchives/wind/wind.aspx>

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles, CA
<http://www.christ-church.los-altos.ca.us/tour/building.htm>

MSGC ACTIVITIES

Barbara Krueger presented a slide talk at the Ypsilanti (MI) Public Library on September 21, 2004. Her topic was the Art and Architecture of Stained Glass, with the emphasis on Michigan.

Betty MacDowell attended a special event entitled "The Art of John Vanderburgh," held on November 22, 2004 at Hope College in Holland, MI, to recognize the stained glass legacy of the late John Vanderburgh of Zeeland. The evening program included an exhibit of Vanderburgh's sketches, cartoons and windows and a showing of "Suncatcher," a documentary film about the artist's life, produced by Calvin College. Vanderburgh died on March 31, 2004. Many of his windows have been registered in the Michigan Stained Glass Census, including the Window of the Month for April 2004.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/apr04.html>

OTHER MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS NEWS

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Algonac was sold at auction in October by the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan. The Algonac parish had existed since 1863. The neo-Gothic church, built in 1915, closed last summer due to dwindling membership. It was purchased for an undisclosed price by Dan Griffin of East China Township. The diocese retained the right to remove a stained glass window depicting Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Mr. Griffin was unsure of his plans for the building, which he may lease to another church.

Our November newsletter called attention to presidential portraits in stained glass and cited some Michigan windows. Tim Chester, Director of the Public Museum of Grand Rapids, has reminded us of other Michigan examples. Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids has several windows that depict our presidents, including Washington praying at Valley Forge, Jefferson holding the Constitution and Lincoln with the Emancipation Proclamation. More presidential portrait windows are located at the Kirk in the Hills in Bloomfield Hills and the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel in East Lansing. See <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep00.htm>

After hearing of frequent church closings and the dispersal of their stained glass windows, it's heartening to learn how some churches are restoring and preserving their windows for many years to come. At Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Wyandotte, MI, the ongoing restoration of windows made in 1915 by the Munich Studio of Chicago has resulted in revealing two windows hidden from view since 1958 by the installation of organ pipes. The interesting story of how the still-hidden windows have been photographed is told on the church web site at http://www.ourladyofmountcarmel.org/munich_windows.html All of the church's windows are pictured on the site, which includes an interview with restoration expert Neal A. Vogel of Restoric LLC in Chicago. Photographs of

the restoration in progress can be seen at
<http://www.ourladyofmountcarmel.org/restoration110404.html>

OTHER STAINED GLASS NEWS

TIFFANY IN FLORIDA. Northern "snowbirds" heading to Florida this winter should plan to visit the Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art in Winter Park, a northern suburb of Orlando. The Museum is a showcase for some of Tiffany Studio's most interesting work in windows, lamps and pottery. It was founded by Jeannette Genius McKean and her husband Hugh F. McKean, who served as its first director. Louis Comfort Tiffany died in 1933 and by 1946 his Laurelton Hall estate on Long Island was left unoccupied. After it was ravaged by fire in 1957, the McKeanes were able to acquire many interior architectural elements, including the stained glass. Unfortunately, these materials were simply shoveled into trailers for the trip to Florida, where it took many years for repairs to take place. All of the elements for the 1893 Chapel that Tiffany made for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago have also been acquired and restored, creating a place where visitors can sit and admire its splendor. The Museum store offers a wide range of items that represent art of the Tiffany era. The Morse Museum is located at 445 North Park Avenue in Winter Park. More information about its hours, history, collection, special exhibitions, the Arts & Crafts Movement and Louis Comfort Tiffany is available at
<http://www.morsemuseum.org/index.html>

STAINED GLASS IN NORTH CAROLINA. Travelers to Florida can stop in Asheville, NC, to see stained glass, among other art forms, at the 18th Annual Grove Park Inn Arts & Crafts Conference and Antiques Show. The historic 512-room Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa, built in 1913, is located at 290 Macon Avenue, overlooking Asheville and the Blue Ridge Mountains. The conference brings together antique dealers and modern craftspeople, along with speakers, walking and architectural tours, demonstrations, seminars and three selling shows. This year's conference will be held February 18-20. More information is available at:
<http://www.arts-craftsconference.com/>

Also near Asheville is the famous Biltmore Estate, designed by Richard Morris Hunt and built in the 1890s by George W. Vanderbilt as a country retreat. The palatial home is filled with many architectural splendors, including stained glass. For more details, visit <http://www.biltmore.com/>

FRIENDS RALLY TO SAVE WINDOWS. Recent MSGC newsletters have highlighted the closing of many churches and the uncertain fate of their stained glass windows. Other windows are in jeopardy due to their badly deteriorated condition and lack of funding for restoration. In some cases concerned parishioners and many others have joined together to promote the preservation of their architectural treasures, including the stained glass. One such effort is underway in Chicago where a non-denominational group called Friends of the Windows is working to save and restore the stained glass windows of St. James Chapel at Quigley Preparatory Seminary. Designed by Robert Giles and fabricated by the John J. Kinsella Company of Chicago, these magnificent windows were begun in 1919 and completed in 1925. Restoration of the windows started in 1997 and continues as funding permits. For a history of the windows and chapel and more information about the multi-million dollar fundraising campaign, see <http://www.windows.org/>

A similar group is attempting to reopen and restore the now closed St. Brigid Catholic Church in San Francisco, which is filled with windows by noted Irish artist Harry Clarke of Dublin. Those splendid windows can be seen at <http://www.st-brigid.org/index09.htm>. The efforts of the Committee to Save St. Brigid Church are highlighted at <http://www.st-brigid.org/>. The Chicago and San Francisco groups recognize the need to preserve architectural and stained glass treasures by appealing to a wider community for the necessary restoration funding.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS AS SUNDIALS. A relatively little-known type of stained glass windows are those that function as accurate sundials, keeping the correct time and date. John L. Carmichael of Tucson, Arizona, has been researching stained glass sundials that were made in various countries since the 1500s and has put together an amazing photo gallery of more than 200 sundials on his impressive web site: <http://www.stainedglasssundials.com>. The images are arranged by century, with all known information about each pictured sundial. They include sundials made in England, continental Europe and North America from the 16th century to the present. Carmichael has just installed a large stained glass sundial (The Gecko Dial) that he designed and constructed for his own home in Tucson. It is only the second permanently installed stained glass sundial in the United States (the other is in a private home in Tennessee). According to Carmichael, "The Gecko Dial tells Solar Standard Time adjusted for longitude, the date of the equinoxes and solstices and Apparent Solar Noon (meridian)." Photos of the installation and the installed sundial are on the web site page showing 20th and 21st century dials (scroll to the bottom of the page). William Biggers was the painter of the Gecko Dial, named for the small lizard that is pictured in the design. Spend some time learning about stained glass sundials by visiting Carmichael's extensive web site.

THE STAINED GLASS BOOKSHELF

JEWELS OF LIGHT: THE STAINED GLASS OF THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL, an updated edition of an earlier publication, has recently been issued. Written by Elody R. Crimi and Diane Ney, with photographs by Ken Cobb, the new edition provides much more information than earlier editions. The cathedral's 231 windows are illustrated in color, with descriptions of each window's artists and iconography, location diagrams, and insights into the stylistic evolution and process behind their creation. The new edition can be ordered for \$19.95 (plus shipping) from the Washington National Cathedral Museum Store, Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues, NW, Washington DC 20016-5098 or call (toll free) 800-319-7073 or order online at www.shop.cathedral.org

COLORED WINDS: THE STORY OF A SIXTEENTH CENTURY STAINED GLASS FAMILY is the title of a new historical novel set during the time following Henry VII's death. Helene Harmon Weis, research librarian at Willet Stained Glass Studios in Philadelphia, spent the last four years writing this book, which grew out of her research for an article about King's College Chapel, Cambridge. The book of about 300 pages can be purchased in paperback for \$14.50 from <http://www.authorhouse.com/>. An electronic version is also available for \$5.95. A select bibliography of the author's sources is included. The website contains a book review as well as a brief bio for Helene. From the review: "The book has as much action as a story of a busy family anywhere. There are weddings, funerals, new babies, trips, gentle humor, quarrels and much love."
<http://www.authorhouse.com/BookStore/ItemDetail.aspx?q3=EXwrHaV%252b2Rw%253d>

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Please send comments, questions and suggestions to stainedglass@museum.msu.edu.
