

THE MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS CENSUS NEWSLETTER NUMBER 13 * SEPTEMBER 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.

IN THIS ISSUE:

RECENTLY REGISTERED WINDOWS

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

WINDOW OF THE MONTH "FLASH BACKS"

STAINED GLASS ON THE WEB

MSGC ACTIVITIES

Programs

Christ Church Grosse Pointe registration project

New pages on the MSGC web site

OTHER MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS NEWS

MSGC volunteer Evelyn Bedore

Swany Vander Burgh death and Vander Burgh exhibit

MSU Sesquicentennial Quilt

Stained Glass Window Rain Garden

OTHER STAINED GLASS NEWS

Coach Bobby Bowden window

Corning Museum of Glass competition

Pat Benincasa's 3-D stained glass windows

RECENTLY REGISTERED WINDOWS

MSGC 05.0011. First Baptist Church of Hudson, Hudson, MI. Eleven stained glass windows created in 1885 by an unknown studio and four windows created in 1998-99 by Jeff Hart of Designs with Hart Studio, Hillsdale, MI. Registered by Rondel L. Waldo of Hudson, MI.

MSGC 05.0012. Trinity Episcopal Church, Alpena, MI. Fifteen stained glass windows created in the 1960s by J. Whippell & Co., Ltd. of Great Britain. Registered by Cathy Green of Alpena, MI.

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

August 2005. Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, MI. This bold, unconventional installation by South Carolina artist Samuel Hodge evokes images of African American cultural icons and of the Civil Rights Movement.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/aug05.html>

September 2005. Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Kalamazoo, MI. This late nineteenth century ornamental staircase window by an unknown studio is intriguing for its use of an uncommon design motif.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep05.html>

WINDOW OF THE MONTH "FLASH BACKS"

August 2000. Madden Hall, Adrian Dominican Motherhouse Campus, Adrian, MI. These six lancet windows were created ca. 1940 by Sister Helene O'Connor of the Dominican Sisters (with her students). The windows depict Dominican saints and sacred events related to the lives of the saints.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/aug00.html>

September 2002. First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Owosso, MI. These two windows by the Chicago studios of George A. Misch depict Moses coming down from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments and a missionary preaching to a group of Native Americans.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep02.html>

STAINED GLASS ON THE WEB

Graduate Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

http://www.lib.umich.edu/grad/showcase/art/interior/art_glass.html

Union Church of Pocantico Hills, Pocantico Hills, NY

<http://www.viewseum.com/viewseum/past/unionchurch/>

MSGC ACTIVITIES

Barbara Krueger will be speaking at Cranbrook House on Thursday, September 29, and again on Friday, October 28. Sponsored by the Friends of Cranbrook and the Friends of the Detroit Public Library, both evenings will offer refreshments at 6:30 p.m., a tour of Cranbrook House at 7 p.m. and Barbara's talk at 8 p.m. There is a fee of \$20 to attend each of the events, which are open to the public. For more information, call the Cranbrook House Auxiliary at 248-645-3149.

Cranbrook House, the former home of Cranbrook founders George and Ellen Booth, is part of the Cranbrook Education Community, located at 39221 Woodward Avenue in Bloomfield Hills, MI. To learn more about Cranbrook House and its gardens, see http://www.cranbrook.edu/housgard/H_G-home.html

Christ Church Grosse Pointe, as part of their 75th Anniversary celebration, has launched a project to register their stained glass windows in the Michigan Stained Glass Census. These windows were discussed in the 1987 book, *Discovering Stained Glass in Detroit*, by Nola Huse Tutag with Lucy Hamilton. The church has windows by the Willet Studio of Philadelphia, Connick Studio of Boston, several by Clement Heaton after he moved from England to New York, one or two by the Detroit Stained Glass Works and one large window by an unidentified studio, the last of which was featured in the Detroit book. The church has assembled a committee of about 18 members who met in mid-August for lunch and instructions. Coordinator Stuart Grigg explained the registration project, provided binders with background information, and laid out folders for each of the windows. Each person then selected the window(s) he/she would research and write up. They expect that the research, photography and paperwork will be completed by Thanksgiving. The enthusiasm of the committee is now spreading to the congregation. This large committee approach to registering windows in the Census could be used in other churches or synagogues where there are many windows needing to be researched. Barbara Krueger will be giving a slide presentation on the Michigan Stained Glass Census to the congregation on Sunday, December 4 from 10-11 a.m. Christ Church Grosse Pointe is located at 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI.

We have added two new pages to our Michigan Stained Glass Census web site. The "Recently Registered Buildings" page lists reports that have arrived during the last couple of months and includes a window image from each: <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/new/new0805.html>

The "Stained Glass Bulletin Board" page provides a place where stained glass announcements, events and requests can be posted. One recent request came

from the owner of a house in Peru, which he believes was designed by Gustave Eiffel around 1890. Its stained glass window depicts the Holy Family and is signed with the initials "SID" or "STD." He is looking for the identity of the artist or studio that made the window. If you have any information about the identity of the artist or studio, let us know. Photos of the window and the initials are posted on our "Stained Glass Bulletin Board" at <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/events.html>

The "Michigan Stained Glass Collections" page has also been updated with a link to the "Wetland Brothers" panel by Dolores Laban (7594.13) from the MSU Museum Traveling Exhibition web site that describes the exhibit "Sisters of the Great Lakes: Art of American Indian Women." Laban, an Ottawa/Chippewa stained glass artist from Grand Rapids, is one of several Native American women who are featured in this exhibit. Go to the Collections page at <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/collections.html> and click on the link from Laban's panel or to <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/tes/sisters/labam.htm> to see a photo and brief bio of this artist. The "Sisters of the Great Lakes" traveling exhibit will be at the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center in Moorehead, MN, from October 1 to December 31, 2005.

OTHER MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS NEWS

In 1994 Evelyn Bedore of Ironwood, MI registered the windows of her church, The Church of the Transfiguration, in the Michigan Stained Glass Census. At that time she was 94 years old. One of the windows was featured as a Window of the Month on our web site in October 2003. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/oct03.html>

This month Mrs. Bedore will celebrate her 105th birthday on September 29. Her life story is being documented by Tim Robinson and his colleagues in the Continuing Education/Extension program at the University of Wisconsin-Superior in Superior, WI. The project team has already videotaped six hours of footage that record Mrs. Bedore's life and historical moments of Ironwood's rich history. They are now seeking \$1500 to assist with the editing of video interviews, photos and music. The completed video will be shown at national conferences on gerontology to demonstrate adaptive aging. The premiere showing at the Ironwood Memorial Building will be a fundraiser to help support that historic structure, erected in 1922 to honor Ironwood's World War I servicemen. Its windows also have been registered in the Michigan Stained Glass Census. See <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/feb99.html>. The documentary will be available for purchase in the form of DVD and VHS recordings. For more information about the Evelyn Bedore Documentary, contact Tim Robinson at TROBINS2@uwsuper.edu.

Robinson writes, "Evelyn Bedore exemplifies the true meaning of volunteerism and community spirit . . . When the Mayor of Ironwood wanted to tear down a local church, Evelyn (then 95 years old) responded with a resounding 'Not over my dead body!' She is credited with raising \$50,000 to renovate the structure. Evelyn has given to the community her whole life through volunteering, organizing many fundraisers, and continuing to serve as mentor and an inspiration to all people who are aging." If you wish to send birthday greetings to Mrs. Bedore, her address is 402 E. Vaughn Street, Ironwood, MI 49938.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Swany Vander Burgh, the widow of Zeeland stained glass artist John Vander Burgh, who died last year. Mrs. Vander Burgh died on August 10, 2005, in Holland, MI. In 1951 the Vander Burghs and their three children came to Zeeland from the Netherlands, where they had been active in the Dutch resistance during the Nazi occupation of their homeland. John Vander Burgh worked for the Grand Rapids Art Glass Company before opening his own Zeeland studio in 1957. He and Swany were well known patrons of the arts at Hope College in Holland, MI. Donations in their memory may be made to Hope College for the Vander Burgh Prize in Music. A retrospective exhibit of John's work opened on August 22 at the De Pree Art Center and Gallery of Hope College. The exhibit will run through September 18 with an Opening Reception on Friday, September 9, from 5-7 p.m. The De Pree Art Center and Gallery is located at 160 East 12th Street in Holland, MI. For information, call 616-395-7500.

Michigan State University's sesquicentennial year of 2005 has been celebrated in many ways, including the creation of a Sesquicentennial Quilt that highlights images and symbols in the university's history. The images include three of the stained glass windows located in the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel: "Community," "Women Admitted," and "Diffusion of Knowledge." The Sesquicentennial Quilt, now part of the MSU Museum Quilt Collection, was designed and made by Beth Donaldson, with research assistance from Marsha MacDowell and Merry Silber, and was machine quilted by Lynne MacDowell. A photo of the quilt by Pearl Yee Wong appears on the web site of the Great Lakes Quilt Center.

http://www.museum.msu.edu/gllqc/collections_2005.31.1.html

All of the chapel windows can be viewed on a university web site, Public Art on Campus, at <http://www.publicart.msu.edu> (Sign in as a "guest" and browse by the location, "Memorial Chapel" to see the three windows represented in the Sesquicentennial Quilt.) Windows of the Alumni Memorial Chapel have also been featured on our MSGC web site at

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep00.html>

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/may05.html>

The stained glass windows of a Grand Rapids church have inspired the creation of the Stained Glass Window Rain Garden, located in downtown Grand Rapids at the corner of Fountain Street and Library Plaza on the campus of Grand Rapids Community College. Planted by GRCC's Service Learning Center Advisory Board, the rain garden echoes the colors of the windows at Fountain Street Church across the street. Rain gardens, or bioretention systems, are designed to absorb rain and cleanse stormwater runoff, thereby helping to keep Michigan's rivers, streams and lakes clean and healthy. You can learn about the value of rain gardens by visiting the web site of Rain Gardens of West Michigan, an environmental education program focused on stormwater education. http://www.raingardens.org/About_Us.php
More about the Stained Glass Window Rain Garden is at http://www.raingardens.org/Stained_Glass_Window.php

OTHER STAINED GLASS NEWS

The start of the football season is an appropriate time to call attention to an unusual stained glass window at Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL. The 30-by-20-foot window, located at FSU's Doak Campbell Stadium, is a tribute to Head Football Coach Bobby Bowden, for whom the football field is named. The window was created by FSU artist Robert Bischoff, his wife Ann, and twelve students in FSU's Master Craftsman Program. Composed of 112 panels and 8500 pieces of glass, the giant window depicts Coach Bowden looking out over the football field surrounded by fans. Information about FSU's stained glass program at the Master Craftsman Studios and views of the Bobby Bowden window are at these web sites:
http://craft.fsu.edu/featured_window.html
<http://www.fsu.edu/~mcp/Submenus/Projects/Glass.html#>

The Corning Museum of Glass has announced the deadline for the 27th annual worldwide competition to select 100 slides of innovative works in glass - hot, warm, flat, stained, etc. The works should have been made between October 1, 2004 and October 1, 2005. The entry deadline is October 15, 2005 and the works will be seen in the Spring 2006 New Glass Review published by Neues Glas in Germany. For more information, contact the Curatorial Department at the Corning Museum of Glass, One Museum Way, Corning, NY 14830-2253 or visit <http://www.cmog.org/index.asp?pageld+811>

Pat Benincasa of St. Paul, MN, is an artist who uses various media to create contemporary sacred art. Raised in Pontiac, MI, she received her BFA in life drawing from Michigan State University in 1973 and her MA and MFA in life drawing from Wayne State University in 1976. After several successful years as a painter, in 1988 she began working with glass and also in three dimensions. In 1990 she won a national competition to design a skylight for a new Minnesota Judicial Center in St. Paul. Her winning design of glass and steel, "Falling Water Skylight," is a 7-ton three-dimensional work suspended above the building's grand staircase. Since the late 1990s, inspired by her own deepening spiritual faith, Benincasa has been creating three-dimensional stained glass windows for sacred settings. Her prototype "Noah Window," the "Redemption Window" at the Hill-Murray Chapel in Maplewood, MN, the "Alpha and Omega Sculptures" for Edina Community Lutheran Church in Edina, MN, and other recent works are pictured and explained on her web site at <http://www.patbenincasa-art.com/>

Says the artist, "These works bear witness to the parallel between making art and my journey of faith . . . I believe art is visual prayer - prayer expressed visually."

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