

THE MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS CENSUS NEWSLETTER NUMBER 18 * OCTOBER 2006

A quarterly 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.

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RECENTLY REGISTERED WINDOWS AND UPDATED WINDOW REGISTRATIONS

MSGC 92.0048. Holy Rosary Chapel, Adrian Dominican Sisters Motherhouse Campus, Adrian, MI. Updated information and new photos, including renovation and dedication of the Chapel in August 2003, relocation and revised order of previous windows in the Chapel, Reconciliation Room and Gathering Space, two new balcony windows created in 2001-2002 by Heidi Gruenke Emery of Conrad Schmitt Studios, New Berlin, WI, new circular beveled glass balcony window and three new beveled glass windows in the Gathering Space outside of the Chapel created in 2002 by Conrad Schmitt Studios, New Berlin, WI. Registered by Sister Therese M. Haggerty, OP, of Adrian, MI, with photography by Ray Casey.

MSGC 94.0150. Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel (formerly the Maria Chapel), Dominican Life Center, Adrian Dominican Sisters Motherhouse Campus, Adrian, MI. Updated information and new photos, including renovation of the Maria Chapel in 2002, and renaming and dedication of the St. Catherine of Siena Chapel in April 2005. Registered by Sister Therese M. Haggerty, OP, of Adrian, MI.

MSGC 94.0152. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Ypsilanti, MI. Fourteen stained glass windows created in 1945-49 by the Willet Stained Glass Studios of Philadelphia. Registration of windows completed with additional information and photos from Valerie Kabat of Ypsilanti, MI.

MSGC 06.0022. Muskegon County Museum, Muskegon, MI. One stained glass window from a building in Italy ca. WWI and two windows from St. Joseph's Church in Muskegon, MI. Registered by Becky Fitzgerald, Curator of Collections, and Danielle LaFleur, Collections and Technology Manager.

MSGC 06.0023. Woodmere Cemetery Chapel, Detroit, MI. One three-panel stained glass window created in 1930 by A. Kay Herbert of Detroit. Registered by Gail Hershenzon of Novi, MI, with photos by Tom Koselka of Westland, MI.

MSGC 06.0024. Most Holy Redeemer Church, Detroit, MI. Windows created in 1923 by A. Kay Herbert of Detroit, MI. Photographed by Tom Koselka of Westland, MI.

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

August 2006. Central United Methodist Church, Muskegon, MI. These 1930s windows by the Chicago firm of Giannini & Hilgart give us insight into the Christian tradition's complex hierarchy of heavenly beings.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/aug06.html>

September 2006. St. Paul the Apostle Church, Calumet, MI. These 1906 windows by the Ford Brothers Glass Company of Minneapolis depict saints significant to the major local mining community that existed at that time.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep06.html>

October 2006. "A Workman Approved Unto God": Work, Faith and the Automotive Industry in Michigan's Stained Glass. This article on industrial imagery and the automotive industry in Michigan's churches includes windows by the Willet Studios, the George L. Payne Studio and Polish-American artist Marian Owczarski, among others.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/oct06.html>

WINDOW OF THE MONTH "FLASH BACKS"

August 2004. Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI. Abraham Rattner's colorful symbolic expression of peace and social justice was produced during the late 1950s.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/aug04.html>

September 2004. St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Elmira, MI. Michigan artist Tom Woodruff's sinuously rendered natural images depict the biblical creation story in these 1979 nave windows.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep04.html>

October 2004. St. Mary's Catholic Church, Grand Rapids, MI. This elegant 1926 window designed by H. Oidtmann III of Linnich, Germany depicts a scene from the Book of Daniel.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/oct04.html>

STAINED GLASS ON THE WEB

Metropolitan Museum of Art, Deedee Wigmore Galleries
<http://www.metmuseum.org/explore/Tiffany/index.html>

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Tampa, FL
<http://www.sacredheartfla.org/church/windows/index.shtml>

MSGC ACTIVITIES

"Work" in Stained Glass. You may have noticed that some recent windows featured on our site share a common thread, that of work. Over the coming year, we will be examining the concept of labor as it intersects with Michigan's stained glass. We hope to show you examples of stained glass in Michigan with labor-related imagery and introduce you to the work of some of our state's important stained glass workers and studios, as well as other related topics. This project coincides with the MSU Museum's new exhibition, "Workers Culture in Two Nations: South Africa and the United States" and a larger program on work, workplaces, workers and workers culture being produced at Michigan State University and in Mid-Michigan. For more information on the "Workers Culture in Two Nations" exhibit, visit: <http://museum.msu.edu/Exhibitions/Current/WorkersCultureinTwoNations.html>

New on our website...

Occasionally, people will ask us how we come to choose the windows that we feature as "windows of the month" on our website. The process involves more factors than one might expect, with the ultimate goal of showing a broad and diverse representation of Michigan's stained glass treasures. For more information, see "What Makes a Window of the Month?" at <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/WOM.html>

Also new is "Information on Collections Use for Research and Publication," a link to MSU Museum policies and use fees for researchers. If you are interested in using any of our images or other materials for your research, please contact us directly and/or visit: http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/coll_use.html

Barbara Krueger's article for the Stained Glass Journal of America. Barbara Krueger has written about an intriguing stained glass "mystery," based on her research at a Michigan church. Her feature article, "Where is Winifred?" appeared in the inaugural June issue of the new online Stained Glass Journal of America. Read Barbara's interesting article at <http://www.stainedglassjournal.com/weird.html>
The Stained Glass Journal of America includes many other features and is available at <http://www.stainedglassjournal.com/>

OTHER MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS NEWS

An unknown stained glass artist is identified. Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Hastings, MI involved teenagers in their congregation to design a pack of six note cards, all with photos of their stained glass windows. A local photographer assisted with taking all the photos. The Sunday School window, the largest in the church, has recently undergone major conservation work both to the wood frame and to the stained glass.

There are two stained glass windows in the small chapel, which was a porch until the early 1970s. One of the windows has a small peace symbol, which helps to provide a date of installation, but the designer had been unknown. However, several weeks ago a woman and her teenage son came to see the windows that "Grandpa" had made. She provided a newspaper article from 1971 that tells about her father Philip Villaire, who was a social worker in Barry County. He learned the craft of stained glass as a volunteer without pay at Diamond Art Glass in Detroit when he was attending the University of Detroit. So, another mystery is solved!

Tiffany window included in sale of Ypsilanti Historical Museum. The Ypsilanti Historical Society has purchased the Ypsilanti Historical Museum from the City of Ypsilanti, pledging to repair the aging Museum and to keep the Museum's Tiffany window, which also will be repaired. Built in 1860 as a private residence, the two-story home at 220 N. Huron Street was purchased by the city in 1965 for use as a museum. The 4-by-7 foot window, depicting a female figure with hourglass and oil lamp, was originally located in the Ladies Library building, which was built in 1849 as a home for John and Mary Starkweather. Mrs. Starkweather commissioned the window when she donated her home to the Ladies Library in 1890. It was relocated to the Ypsilanti Historical Museum for safekeeping in the 1970s when the Ladies Library was vacant.

OTHER STAINED GLASS NEWS

A new window for Cologne Cathedral. German artist Gerhard Richter, known worldwide for his paintings, is currently creating a monumental stained glass window for the Cologne Cathedral. The 1,184 square foot window will contain 11,200 pieces of glass, each measuring 3.7 inches square. The glass pieces, in 80 different colors, will be arranged in a random pattern. The new window, crafted by Richter as a gift to the city of Cologne, the Cathedral and its visitors, will be unveiled in the spring of 2007. <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,2115632,00.html>

Grant Wood's Veterans Memorial Window. American artist Grant Wood, best known for his paintings of rural American life, designed a stained glass window in 1927 for the Veterans Memorial Building in his hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After creating a small design of the window in his studio, he was loaned the use of a large recreation room in the local Quaker Oats plant, where he and his assistant Arnold Pyle could make a full-size drawing of the 24-foot high by 20-foot wide window. Wood's sister, Nan Wood Graham, was the model for the central 16-foot Lady of Peace and Victory, who wears a Grecian robe while holding the palm branch of peace and the laurel wreath of victory. Across the bottom of the window, flanking a bronze memorial tablet, are life-size figures to represent soldiers of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish American War and the First World War. The window border features insignias of the army, navy and marines. The window was fabricated under Wood's supervision in Munich, Germany, and installed by the Emil Frei Glass Company of St. Louis, MO, on March 9, 1929. More information and several photos of the window are at this web site.

<http://www.cedar-rapids.org/vetsmemorial/window.asp>

McDonald Memorial Peace Windows Project. When U. S. Army Chaplain Frederick A. McDonald was serving in the Army during World War II, he collected shards of stained glass from damaged and destroyed churches and synagogues in France, Germany and Britain and shipped the pieces back home to Seattle. Years later, while living in a retirement home in San Francisco, the retired Episcopal priest mentioned his collection of shards to friends and his hope that "something beautiful" could be created from the remains of so much devastation. He had organized the shards and recorded his memories of the times and places where he had found them. Before McDonald's death on March 9, 2002, his friends launched the McDonald Memorial Peace Windows Project to preserve the shards and their stories. Armelle LeRoux and other stained glass artists from Reflection Studios in Emeryville, CA have created 26 windows, each incorporating the shards from the site where McDonald found them. The windows are installed in the lower level of the Interfaith Center's Main Post Chapel of the decommissioned Army base at the Presidio in San Francisco, CA. More about the McDonald Memorial Peace Windows Project is at these sites:

<http://www.interfaith-presidio.org/mcdonald/article.htm>

<http://www.interfaith-presidio.org/mcdonald/remembrances.htm>

The following article includes a photo of Chaplain McDonald.

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2004/04/11/BAGB163KV61.DTL>

The Interfaith Center at the Presidio is at <http://www.interfaith-presidio.org/>

York Minster's famous Great East Window is saved by the lottery. The deteriorating Great East Window in York Minster at York, England, will be restored through a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which will pay for the removal, storage and recording of its glass panels dating back to the early 15th century. During the three-year project, visitors to the Minster will be able to see conservators at work on the windows in the nearby Bedern Chapel, which is being converted into a workshop. More about the window and its restoration is at

http://www.thisisyork.co.uk/display.var.927912.0.lotto_cash_for_minster_glasses.php

Robert Sowers' stained glass façade for American Airlines to be demolished. A recent article in USA Today reports that American Airlines plans to renovate Terminals 8 and 9 at JFK Airport in New York, which will include the demolition (or possible removal) of Terminal 8 containing Robert Sowers' well-known 1960s stained glass wall. Due to the anticipated cost of removal and transport of the stained glass work, as well as the airline industry's post-9/11 struggles, American Airlines will be unable to salvage this work. Instead, American Airlines would like to donate the work to an organization that will pay for the removal and transport of the 46-year old piece, possibly to a museum or a new site. If any person or organization is willing to accept American Airlines' donation of this stained glass work and to undertake its removal and transport during 2007, they should contact Kendra Kennedy, Senior Properties Counsel, American Airlines at 817-931-0208 or by e-mail at Kendra.Kennedy@aa.com.

An article about Sowers' stained glass wall has appeared in USA Today: http://www.usatoday.com/money/biztravel/2006-07-30-flight-plan-lambert_x.htm The glass wall can also be seen on the following website. Wait for images to come in, then scroll down to about photos 46 and 56. The second photo includes an article about the facade.

<http://forum.skyscraperpage.com/showthread.php?t=114529>

Washington's life in stained glass at Mount Vernon. Stained glass scenes of George Washington's life will be displayed in the new Ford Orientation Center at Mount Vernon, Washington's Virginia home. Designed by GWWO Inc/Architects of Baltimore, Maryland, and made possible by the Ford Motor Company, the new building will open on October 27, 2006. Five stained glass panels depicting Washington will be featured in the lobby. More information about the Ford Orientation Center is at

<http://www.mountvernon.org/visit/plan/index.cfm/sss/94/>

A stained glass tribute to firefighters. Fire Station 58 in Ladera Ranch, Orange County, CA, has a new stained glass window inspired by a similar window honoring past firefighters at Fire Station 58 in Harlem, NY. A month after 9/11 the Ladera Ranch firefighters flew to New York to attend funerals for the 343 firefighters who lost their lives at the World Trade Center. After seeing the stained glass window at Harlem Fire Station 58, they wanted to have a window in their own Fire Station 58 to honor the fallen firefighters. They raised funds for the window by selling 1200 T-shirts bearing the Station 58 emblem. The five-foot square window features the unofficial station name, "The Outpost," their skull logo and a four-leaf clover.

http://www.ocregister.com/ocregister/news/homepage/article_1278992.php

Under photo, click on "More Photos" to see two more photos of window and firefighters.

http://www.ocregister.com/ocregister/news/local/communities/ladera/article_1276013.php

New stained glass windows for Al Asad Base Chapel in Iraq. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Donald J. Hodory, a builder with the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 25, 9th Naval Construction Regiment, has created 60 stained glass windows for the new base chapel at Al Asad Base in Iraq. Hodory is a native of Woodstock, IL, where he owns a stained glass studio. He arranged to get the necessary supplies through donations from stained glass companies in the States. With the help of fellow servicemen, he was able to complete the windows before leaving Iraq. For his accomplishment, Hodory has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal, given to service members who go above and beyond their military duties.

<http://www.lincolntribune.com/modules/news/article.php?storyid=5349>

Stained glass artist Sister Diane Couture, a nun with the Sisters of St. Joseph in St. Augustine, FL, has been helping to retrace the physical appearance and history of windows that were blown away when Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast churches of Bay Saint Louis and Biloxi. In the process she has become deeply involved with helping people whose homes were destroyed and whose lives were overturned. Sister Diane's story is at <http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/local/news-article.aspx?storyid=58337>

"Louis Comfort Tiffany and Laurelton Hall -- An Artist's Country Estate" is the title of an upcoming exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Nov 21, 2006 to May 20, 2007. Tiffany designed every aspect of his country home and gardens in Oyster Bay, NY. Completed in 1905, the house burned down in 1957. The exhibition includes many surviving architectural elements and interior features, as well as Tiffany's personal collections of his own work. For more information, go to http://www.metmuseum.org/special/se_upcoming.asp and click on the exhibition title.

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