

THE MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS CENSUS NEWSLETTER NUMBER 20 * APRIL 2007

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 93.0022. St. Rita Catholic Church, Clarklake, MI. Two stained glass chapel doors created in 2006 by Omnibus Studios, Inc., of New Era, MI. Registered and photographed by Eldred Kennedy of Clarklake, MI.

MSGC 93.0115. Ladies Literary Club, Grand Rapids, MI. Stained glass "Shakespeare Window" created in 1915 by Tiffany Studios of NYC. Additional information and photos of the building and the window, registered and

photographed by Richard H. Harms, Archivist of Calvin College, which now owns the LLC building.

MSGC 94.0158. Christ Church Cranbrook, Cranbrook Educational Community, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Registered by Shirley Dow Marthey of Bloomfield Hills. New photos of windows in St. Dunstan's Chapel, created in 1927 by Harry Wright Goodhue. Photographed by J. William Gorski of Macomb Twp., MI.

MSGC 95.0015. St. Mary's Catholic Church, Grand Rapids, MI. Addition of Expressions of Faith Through Glass, a new book about its windows, published by the church in 2006.

MSGC 97.0085. First United Methodist Church, Farmington, MI. Additional information and photos of several windows created in the 1920s. Provided and photographed by Dick Carvell of Farmington, MI.

MSGC 01.0038. St. David's Episcopal Church, Southfield, MI. Registered by Jeanne Dodge and Telfer White. Additional information and more photos of windows designed by Margreta Overbeck for Lamb Studios, provided and photographed by Stephen C. Ernst of Berkley, MI.

MSGC 06.0017. Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Sixteen stained and painted glass works in the museum collection, ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Registered by Gregory Wittkopp, Museum Director. New photos of windows located in the Cranbrook Art Museum, Cranbrook Academy of Art, and Cranbrook Schools, created by Charles J. Connick, Michael Healy, Jacob Weber the Younger, M H. Robertson, Hans Jakob Bucher, Wilhelm Rupprecht, George Owen Bonawit, and unknown artists. Photographed by J. William Gorski of Macomb Twp., MI.

MSGC 06.0021. Troy Museum and Historic Village, Troy, MI. Eight stained glass windows in the old Troy Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1837 and relocated in the Troy Historic Village in 2003. Six windows, installed ca. 1898, were made by an unidentified studio, two windows were created in 2004 by Shadetree Studios of Petoskey, MI. Registered by William Boardman, Troy Museum Archivist, and Anne Nagrant, Museum Staff. Photographed by Anne Nagrant, with photo of church exterior by Kathrin Schwietale-Jaeger.

MSGC 07.0003. First Baptist Church, Fowlerville, MI. Twenty-two stained glass windows created in 1894 by an unknown studio, two stained glass door windows created in 1962 and two door windows created in 2002 by Sue Hassenzahl of Fowlerville, MI. Registered and photographed by Steve Paul of Byron, MI.

MSGC 07.0004. Brookside Lower School, Cranbrook Educational Community, Bloomfield Hills, MI. Five windows created in 1923 by A. Kay Herbert of Detroit, MI. Registered by Diane Schmale and Leslie Edwards, Cranbrook Archives. Photographed by J. William Gorski of Macomb Twp., MI.

MSGC 07.0005. Governor Warner Mansion, Farmington, MI. Stained glass windows created by an unknown studio ca. 1892, and by Carol Rowe of Milford, MI in 1982. Registered and photographed by Dick Carvell, Associate Director, of Farmington, MI.

RECENT "WINDOWS OF THE MONTH" ON THE MSGC WEBSITE

February 2007. The Detroit Stained Glass Works, Detroit, MI. This article recounts the history of Michigan's oldest known stained glass firm, featuring some of their finest work in the state.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/feb07.html>

March 2007. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Marquette, MI. This historic Upper Peninsula church is adorned with a variety of windows by Connick, Tiffany, Clayton & Bell and the T. C. Esser Company.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/mar07.html>

April 2007. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Flint, MI. This Resurrection-themed window depicting Mary Magdalene and the newly risen Christ was created by the New York studio of Louis C. Tiffany.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/apr07.html>

WINDOW OF THE MONTH "FLASH BACKS"

February 1998. Historic Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Detroit, MI. This 1992 window by Anchor Glass Studio of Inkster, MI entitled the "African American Pulpit Window" honors African American ministers of the past, present and future.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/feb98.html>

March 2004. Temple Beth Sholom, Ishpeming, MI. These vibrant windows depicting the Jewish Sabbath and Yom Kippur were designed by New York artist A. Raymond Katz and fabricated by Rohlf's Stained and Leaded Glass Studio of New York in 1962.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/mar04.html>

April 2005. St. Clair Shores Public Library, St. Clair Shores, MI. These unusual windows made by students from Detroit's College for Creative Studies (CCS) in 2004 utilize colorful roundels from CCS's hot glass studio.
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/apr05.html>

STAINED GLASS ON THE WEB

St. David's Episcopal Church, Southfield, MI
<http://www.stdavidssouthfield.com/windows.html>

Trinity Church, Boston MA
<http://www.trinitychurchboston.org/art/slideshows.php>

MSGC ACTIVITIES

Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative. On Sunday, March 25, MSGC Co-Director Barbara Krueger journeyed to Elyria, OH (just west of Cleveland) to give a slide talk to 25 volunteers participating in the Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative. Developed by Lorain County Community College, this group of very dedicated volunteers, under the tutelage of Director Cheryl Piper and Programming Assistant Cara Muchmore, has begun an ecclesiastical stained glass survey of the county. The Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative supports the college's Vision 21 Initiative to "promote community collaboration and growth within Lorain County's faith-based communities." This group is part of a network of higher education partners headquartered at the Center for Sacred Landmarks at Cleveland State University, located in downtown Cleveland.

The meeting was held at First Congregational United Church of Christ, which has several windows from the Tiffany Studios and is listed in Alastair Duncan's book, Tiffany Windows. This church is adjacent to the town square, along with several other churches, as is the case in many smaller towns in the US. Since 2003, there have been two tours of sacred spaces, at least three choral festivals, and two student photo contests. In addition, in 2005 there was a "celebration of faith" exhibition (religious art and artifacts) with an accompanying monograph.

Interestingly, an early pastor of the church, whose name is on a memorial plaque for one of the Tiffany windows, was John Montieth (1788-1868). Montieth has Michigan connections, as he came here to guide the development of the First Evangelical Society, which laid the foundation for Detroit's First Presbyterian Church, now the Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Montieth proved to be a strong leader and quickly became friends with Fr. Gabriel Richard, with whom in 1817 he co-founded a school of higher learning in Detroit. By 1837 the school had become the University of Michigan and was moved to Ann Arbor. Montieth was the university's first president, with Fr. Richard as vice-president.

Hopefully, the publicity from the wonderful endeavors of the Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative will spread to other counties in Ohio. More

about the project can be found at
<http://www.lorainccc.edu/Community+Services/Sacred+Landmarks+Initiative/>

Scripps Mansion window cartoons. The recent discovery of charcoal cartoons made by the Detroit Stained Glass Works for the windows of the Scripps Mansion in Lake Orion, MI, has confirmed the attribution of those windows to the Detroit studio, rather than to an unidentified English studio. Some of the cartoons are in the collection of the MSGC at the MSU Museum; others are privately held. Our MSGC website collection page lists four cartoons for Scripps Mansion windows depicting a butler, a chef and two masks. Click on the red accession numbers to see them.

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

Two other windows at the Scripps Mansion were featured on the MSGC website in July of 2004. Cartoons for these windows also exist.

<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/jul04.html>

CraftWORKS! Michigan. The CraftWORKS! Michigan project, described in our January newsletter, is designed to spur economic development by promoting the state's craft industry and outstanding craft artists through related tourism destinations. As part of this project, the Michigan Stained Glass Census is collecting information about our state's stained glass studios and artists, whose creative and restoration work forms an important part of Michigan's craft industry. We will be glad to receive historical or biographical information about Michigan stained glass studios or artists, as well as photos of studios and artists at work. Please send any information and photos to the Michigan Stained Glass Census, MSU Museum, East Lansing, MI 48824-1045. For more information, call Michele Beltran at 517-432-3355 or Betty MacDowell at 517-627-8973.

OTHER MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS NEWS

Bill Gorski's talk on Polish church windows. Bill Gorski, who has done extensive research on Michigan's Polish communities, will give a slide talk on the J. William Gorski Genealogical & Historical Collection, now held at the Library of Michigan, and also on the stained glass windows of three Polish churches in Michigan that have closed or will soon be closing. His talk will be presented on May 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the American Polish Cultural Center, located at 2975 East Maple Road, Troy, MI, and again on May 19 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Hedwig Roman Catholic Church, 3245 Junction, Detroit, MI.

New book on St. Mary's Church windows. Expressions of Faith Through Glass is the name of a handsome new book about the stained glass windows of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Grand Rapids, published by the church in 2006. The book contains detailed descriptions and photos of all of the windows, which were made in 1926 by the H. Oidtmann Glass and Mosaic Studios of Linnich, Germany. Also included is a reprint of the MSGC website's "Window of the Month" for October, 2004:
<http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/oct04.html> The church has generously donated a copy of the book to the MSGC.

Michigan Glass Month. For 26 years the glass arts of Michigan have been highlighted during the month of April, which is designated annually as Michigan Glass Month. Exhibits, lectures and demonstrations of varied glass arts are taking place this April in Metro Detroit and other Michigan cities, as well as in Ohio and Canada. A complete schedule of Michigan Glass Month activities is available at <http://www.michiganglass.org>

Reopening of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum. The Dossin Great Lakes Museum, which opened in 1959 on Belle Isle at Detroit, reopened in March of this year after a \$100,000 renovation of the building and its exhibits. One exhibit, the "Era of Elegance," focuses on the luxurious cruise ships that traveled between Detroit and other cities on the Great Lakes. A favorite permanent attraction is the "Gothic Room," an elaborate smoking lounge that came from the elegant sidewheeler steamboat City of Detroit III, launched in 1912 and scrapped in the 1950s. After its restoration in the 1960s, the Gothic Room was installed in the Museum. It features a stained glass window depicting the 17th-century French explorer LaSalle landing at the site of present-day Detroit. See <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/sep98.html>
An interesting history of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum is at <http://info.detnews.com/history/story/index.cfm?id=34&category=government>
The Museum is located at 100 Strand on Belle Isle, reached by bridge from East Jefferson Avenue in Detroit. <http://www.glmi.org/directions.htm>

Reopening of The Whitney Restaurant. One of Detroit's most elegant restaurants, The Whitney, reopened in March under new ownership. The Whitney occupies the three floors of the Whitney Mansion, designed by Detroit architect Gordon W. Lloyd for lumber baron David Whitney Jr. in 1894. It was converted into a restaurant in 1986. The luxurious mansion contains 52 rooms, 10 bathrooms, 20 fireplaces and many windows, including several stained glass windows made by the Louis C. Tiffany studios and now

registered in the Michigan Stained Glass Census. Go to these sites to learn more about the history of the Whitney Mansion and to take a virtual tour:
<http://www.thewhitney.com/history.htm>
<http://www.thewhitney.com/tour.htm>

OTHER STAINED GLASS NEWS

Preserving the Stained Glass Heritage of New Orleans. Stained glass enthusiasts from throughout Louisiana and the nation will want to pencil in the weekend of April 21, 2007 for an upcoming symposium on the status of stained glass in the New Orleans area. The symposium will bring together nationally recognized and New Orleans-area stained glass conservators and preservation experts. These renowned panelists will discuss the history, heritage, and current condition of New Orleans stained glass windows along with a look at the state-of-the-art of cleaning, repairing, restoring, and protecting liturgical art glass. The symposium is co-sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Friends of St. Alphonsus Church (in New Orleans) and the Preservation Resource Center of Louisiana. Speakers will include Jean Farnsworth, Arthur Femenella, Mary Clerkin Higgins, Cynthia Knezeak, Mary LaCoste, Jessie Poesche, and Andrew Cary Young. A tour of stained glass in local area churches is scheduled for the next day, April 22. The cost for symposium registration is \$25 and includes lunch. The cost of the stained glass tour on April 22 is \$20. Registration forms should be sent to Friends of St. Alphonsus, P.O. Box 57143, New Orleans, LA 70157-7143 or contact Blanche Comiskey at 504-482-0008.

Conservation of Stained Glass Workshop. A workshop on the conservation of stained glass will be offered this summer at the Conservation Center of the New York University Institute of Fine Arts in NYC. The workshop will be held August 6-10, 2007. Drew Anderson, Conservator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, will be the instructor. The application deadline is June 15. A brochure and registration form are available in PDF format at this website:
<http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/fineart/ifa/curriculum/conservation.htm>

SGAA Summer 2007 Conference. The Stained Glass Association of America will hold its 98th Annual Conference in Charlotte, NC, on June 21-23. Information about the conference program, accommodations, and online registration is available at:
<http://www.stainedglass.org/html/SGAAconference.htm>

Albinas Elskus, 1926-2007. The world lost a major stained glass artist with the death of Albinas Elskus on February 8, 2007. Born in Lithuania, Elskus fled in the 1940s to Germany, where he studied architecture and painting before immigrating to Chicago in 1949. After further study at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, he joined the George Durhan and Son Stained Glass Studio in New York. Elskus was well known for the many windows he designed for churches and other institutions in the United States and Europe. He was also the author of an important book on glass painting, *The Art of Painting on Glass*, published in 1980.

A biography of Albinas Elskus is on this website:

http://www.lituanus.org/1993_1/93_1_02.htm

Some of his work can be found here:

http://www.bfg.lt/?_nm_mid=TXl3ekxERXNNQ3d3&_nm_lid=1&session=no

An obituary for Albinas Elskus is at:

<http://waldo.villagesoup.com/announcements/ObituaryStory.cfm?StoryID=86925&storytypeid=1>

Sadie McClellan, 1914-2007. Well-known stained glass artist Sadie McClellan of Scotland died on February 7, 2007 at the age of 92. McClellan trained at the Glasgow School of Art, where she entered the stained glass workshop of Charles Baillie, followed by further training at the Danish Royal Academy of Art in Copenhagen. During her long career she designed many windows for notable churches, including Glasgow Cathedral. She also pioneered in creating dalle de verre windows in the late 1950s. McClellan retired in 1990 to Nova Scotia, where her daughter Judith is an architect. Her obituary is at: <http://www.theherald.co.uk/misc/print.php?artid=1213826>

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