



**MIDWEST PAPERWEIGHT COLLECTORS SPONSORS
JOHNE PARSLEY MELT AT WHEATON ARTS PAPERWEIGHT FEST**

UPDATED ADVANCE RELEASE

MARCH 24, 2018.... The eminent glass artist and Pennsylvania paperweight maker, **Johne Parsley**, died in 2009 leaving approximately two dozen paperweights designated as “seconds.” Parsley, a devotee of Wheaton Arts and artist in the Hot Glass Studio never had the opportunity to properly dispose of these paperweights. According to Joan Parsley, President of the Midwest Paperweight Collectors (MPC) and daughter of the glass artist, “ My father did not want these weights in the marketplace due to their slight imperfections. With his Wheaton association it would only be natural for him to have melted them in the Hot Glass Studio.”

The Parsley Melt will take place during the 2018 Paperweight Fest sponsored by Wheaton Arts and the Delaware Valley Paperweight Collectors Association. **The ceremony is slated April 28 at 12 NOON.** Glass artist Gordon Smith, who was close to Parsley and worked with him in his studio and at Wheaton, will officiate and paperweight maker Don Friel who heads the Hot Glass Studio will melt the two batches of paperweights with molten glass. According to Friel who pulled glass canes for Parsley stated, “We are following the right protocol for Johne...He was here with the best of them.” The Parsley siblings, will pay tribute to their father and announce a project to carry on his legacy. According to Hank Murta Adams, Creative Director for the Wheaton Hot Glass Studio, “ (Johne) was a part of a very small family and we are happy to help.”

Midwest Paperweight Collectors will hold a Meet and Greet reception immediately following the ceremony.

For more information, please contact Joan Parsley, President, Midwest Paperweight Collectors, at: joan.parsley@gmail.com or call 414-839-6195. See Events on the MPC website at info@midweswtpaperweightcollectors.com.

The Midwest Paperweight Collectors fosters appreciation of the art of the paperweight and its history.