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Johne Parsley Legacy Project Receives PCA Grant

October 30, 2022, Wauwatosa, WI... Great Lakes Paperweights, Ltd. has received critical funding from the Paperweight Collectors Association (PCA) for *The Johne Parsley Legacy Project*. Now in its fourth year, Great Lakes Paperweights has been archiving the works of the mid-20th century glass artist, Johne Parsley, (American: 1916-2009) since its inception in 2018.

The PCA Grant will allow Great Lakes Paperweights to digitize more than 140 images of the works of Johne Parsley on its Paperweight Gallery website page along with images of the artist's early art glass. Photographs of the artist and wife, Anne Parsley, are also included. Along with the Paperweight Gallery, the website is also devoted to all-things Johne Parsley including a biography charting the artist's early life through his educational training as a chemist, the influence of two World's Fairs, recent auction information, museum acquisitions, as well as general newsworthy stories that chart the artist's career path in glass. Upon completion of the digitization of the artists personal paperweight collection, the virtual archive will be deposited in the Rakow Research Library as part of the Corning Museum of Glass in New York. The Rakow Research Library will also receive pertinent materials from the Johne Parsley Studio collected in Hamburg, PA upon his death in 2009.

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According to Susan Soy, Chair of the PCA Grants Committee, “We are happy to advance these monies to Great Lakes Paperweights, Ltd. who has become the ‘voice’ of John Parsley so curators, collectors, art students, and the public-at-large can study and enjoy his intimate glass art in the form of glass paperweights. This project advances the mission of the PCA to educate all about the artistic merits of glass paperweights.” Thanks to digitization, *The Legacy Project* will be distributed internationally to audiences who focus on art glass such as educational institutions, art museums, craft centers, and those who contact Great Lakes Paperweights based on a proposal to use this information to further advance the art of paperweight making.

The PCA grant of \$2000 is being matched dollar-for-dollar by the National Philanthropic Trust. In addition, as a not-for-profit organization, Great Lakes Paperweights will embark on its first fundraising campaign to reach its projected, modest budget of \$15,860 for FY 2022.

More information concerning the PCA grant to Great Lakes Paperweights, Ltd. and other related organizations will be featured in the January 2023 issue of the PCA Newsletter.

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