

3916 South Coast HWY
South Beach, OR
97366



Open 7 Days a Week
10 - 6pm
541-867-4198

NEWS LETTER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2005

This is the first of many newsletters which we hope to continue on a bi-monthly basis for The Edge Art Gallery. We will be starting this first news letter from the opening in June through Halloween.

First things first, we would like to take a moment and thank all of those who showed up at the gallery opening that occurred on the weekend of June 24th, 25th and 26th. The support of family, friends and guests ensured we had an excellent grand opening! We could not have asked for a better time with all the artists who showed up to display their work and the glass blowers/bead makers who shared their time and skills with the public. We have a video of the opening which we will be posting once the new website is up and running. Keep watch for it at www.theedgeartgallery.com.

The gallery opened with 12 artists. We are honored at this point in time to be home to 21 exciting artists. Not all of them are glass workers, though the majority are. The diversity of artwork is from glass to leather to clay to paint and more. Come in to see the constantly changing artwork that emanates from these artists. We will be portraying each of these artists in future newsletters in order for you to get to know a bit about them.

In July we were honored to have the Newport Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors meet at the gallery for an early morning glass blowing show and tour of the facilities. The same day also found a wonderful article on the front page of the Newport News-times entertainment section. We are grateful for all the fantastic public relations forums this county has offered us as a new business.

On Labor Day weekend, we were the host of the 3rd annual Glass Stock celebration. This is a yearly gathering of juried artists who come together to share their talents with other glass artists in a variety of art venues. Four days of demonstrations in glass blowing, bead making, wire wrapping, frit casting, silver working, etc. 40 plus talented artists showed up not to mention all the wonderful people who came as support staff to set up, break down, clean up, cook, etc. This gathering was originally started by Mike and Debbie Crowley of the Glass Hive in South Beach. Thanks to their hard work, we are looking forward to many more gatherings and meeting more exciting artists to showcase their talents. Look forward to this becoming a twice yearly gathering if all works out.

At this time, we are looking into holding classes for students in order to teach the art of glass blowing to them. Thanks to Jan at the Waldport High School, we have had our first group of students show up to try out their talents in the hot shop. This is will be implemented as ongoing classes in the gallery hot shop. We feel students are lacking in the art field due to cutbacks and will be doing what we can in order to keep the art of glass alive. If not for new students, who will continue the arts? With the help of other local artists, we hope to share various types of glassworks. If you are willing to show/teach your art to students please contact the gallery. This will be on an artist volunteer basis.

Keeping on the same subject, students, we have also discussed having a display wall in the gallery for student artists wherein we feature different grades and artists on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. We have yet to complete the basics for this idea but will keep you posted.

The gallery is open for custom glass orders. Please come in and discuss with Ryan what it is you are looking for. We have already been contacted by various home owners who are building new home to have custom lamps made for them. We have a wide variety of glass and colors. Don't be shy, come on in and tell us what your desires are.

We hope for the website to be up and running before too long. Along with the video of the grand opening you will be able to view the Ambassador showcase, live glass blowing and bead making, artist's information, view pieces available for sale in the gallery and online purchasing. We will also be posting information regarding classes and the teachers available for them. At this time we have a variety of classes available from making floats to advanced glass blowing. Contact the gallery for more information and available times.

This Halloween will find Elvis (?) blowing glass at the adult Halloween party to be held at the gallery. We ask you to come share in the fun and dress up in your favorite costume. Prizes will be awarded to the best costume. Date and time to be announced.

That about covers it for now. We will keep you updated and will post all newsletters on the website. If you know of anyone who is interested in learning the art of glass blowing, please have them contact us. If you would like to be on our mailing list please forward your address and/or e-mail address to us. Tell your friends and family to come visit. We would love to share the love of glass.

Thank you.

Ryan Bledsoe, Owner

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