

The Brewster Society

NEWS SCOPE



A newsletter for designers, collectors and lovers of kaleidoscopes

Vol.16, No.2
Summer, 2001

KALEIDOSCOPE KARNIVAL 2002 HEADS FOR NEW ORLEANS MAY 9-12

If enthusiastic applause is any indication, the choice of New Orleans for the Brewster Society's 14th annual convention is a popular one indeed! Their world-renowned Mardi Gras lends itself to a "Kaleidoscope Karnival," beyond compare. With Judith Paul, party planner extraordinaire, in charge of our Saturday night masquerade, it promises to live up to the city's fitting logo, "laissez les bons temps rouler" — let the good times roll!...{and the wheels and cells and marbles!}

We are in the midst of planning the convention agenda. Please write or email us with suggestions for programs and workshops you would like. Our host hotel, the New Orleans Hyatt Regency at the Louisiana Superdome (800-233-1234), is within walking distance of all major attractions.

Northeast Regional "Scope-about" Sept. 7-10

Since kaleidoscopes are a matter of the heart rather than the map, members from any area are invited to attend a special weekend "Scope-about" being planned for the Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Bethesda, and Alexandria, Va. area, September 7-10.

Arts Afire, 102 N. Fayette St., Alexandria, Va. (703-838-9785), will host a kaleidoscope exhibit, with a reception each evening until 8. Sherry Moser will be among the guest artists.

FRIDAY is the final day of the antique quilt show at the Md. Historical Society Museum in Baltimore. It includes a display of antique scopes from the Cozy Baker collection. Two nearby attractions include Evergreen, with a fine collection of Tiffany glass, and the American Visionary Art Museum, an architectural jewel that houses a collection of unusual exhibits, also a good restaurant, Joy America Café (410-244-6500).

SATURDAY includes a morning visit to the kaleidoscope studio of Charles Karadimos, in Damascus, Md., and the opening of a kaleidoscope show at Sally

Hanson's Glass Gallery, 4720 Hampton Lane, Bethesda, (11-6). Marc Tickle will be present, along with other award-winning artists.

SUNDAY brunch at Cozy Baker's Scope Salon will be followed by the opening reception of a kaleidoscope show at the Rock Creek Gallery in Washington, D.C. from 2 to 5 (Wiley Jobe and Glenn Straub will be among those attending). From there you are invited to visit Linda Joy's Halcyon home, an annex to the Brewster Society house/museum.

MONDAY, Kay Winkler (301-299-5176) will teach a kaleidoscope class.

SUGGESTED BUDGET HOTELS: Old Town Alexandria Holiday Inn, 625 First St. (just 5 minutes from Reagan National Airport), 703-548-6300, and Bethesda Court Hotel, 7400 Wisconsin Ave., 301-656-2100. Luxury hotel: Marriott Resort Suites, 6711 Democracy Blvd., N. Bethesda, 301-897-5600. Please contact Linda Joy or Cozy Baker if you plan to attend.

The Brewster Society - a brief prospectus

The Brewster Society began as a private club and adjunct to Cozy Baker's early books on kaleidoscopes, and was an offshoot of the world's first kaleidoscope exhibition that she curated in 1985 at Strathmore Hall Art Center. For the first three years there was only the quarterly *News Scope* to link the artists, collectors, and retailers. Then, in 1989, Cozy initiated the first of what evolved into an annual convention. It started out as a social event located wherever a kaleidoscope show was in progress.

Over the years it has developed into a considerable business where artists can showcase their new work, and retailers can select inventory from the largest choice of scopes available anywhere. Collectors have the opportunity to meet the artists, purchase scopes, and learn of year-round sources for their favorite collectibles, while enjoying classes, workshops, demonstrations and social activities.

Owned and operated under the joint partnership of Cozy Baker and Linda Joy, the Brewster Society is assisted by a volunteer committee of dedicated members who help determine the convention policies and agenda. While the business aspect of the convention is growing, the primary objective remains the same: to promote and share the beauty and wonder of kaleidoscope artistry.

Announcing three new convention committee members

In an effort to introduce new blood, activate more geographical areas, and bring in different factions of our organization, a new policy of rotating members on the convention committee is commencing immediately. To maintain continuity, we will retain Charles Karadimos (equipment), Sherry Moser (registration), Carolyn Bennett, and Sue Rioux (sales room).

Jan Boal, Judith Paul, and Nancy Penczak will replace Peggy Kittelson, Tedde Ready, and Kay Winkler. My sincere appreciation and thanks to each devoted member who volunteers to serve as such an important mainstay.

“Lucky 13!”

The Lucky Thirteen Committee (members who have attended all 13 conventions) has undertaken a project to put together a Brewster Society Memory Book in time for the New Orleans convention. In addition to “vital statistics” and pictures from each convention, they want to include some favorite experiences or impressions. If you have a special memory of a particular convention, please describe it briefly, identify the convention, and email it to Ann Franklin at annrf@aol.com, or snail mail it to 7421 Mai Tai Drive, Orlando, FL 32822.

Tomie Imada

*Born into life October 9, 1938
Born into eternal life June 2, 2001
with happy color smile*

Tomie and Fujio Imada were the first members from Japan to attend a Brewster Society convention. That was in 1994 in San Francisco. Last year Tomie was unable to attend due to a bout with cancer. This year Fujio brought Tomie to San Diego straight from her hospital bed, because she wanted to absorb one more time the positive energy she always derived from our association. A few days after returning to Japan, our dear friend Tomie Imada died. Our deepest sympathy to her husband and their many friends.

Toby of Tobar Design

Warren (Toby) Tobecksen died May 18, 2001 at the age of 86, after a prolonged heart condition. He was well-known for his musical wood and glass carousel kaleidoscopes, which he started making in 1988 under the name Tobar Designs (a combination of Toby and his wife Barbara's first names.) We extend our sincere sympathy to Barbara, and our very best wishes for the business she plans to continue.

*Death is not extinguishing the light
It is putting out the lamp
Because the dawn has come*

...Tagore

SCOOPS ON SCOPES

All photographs by Elliott Topp.

A pictorial display of every scope unveiled at Kaleidoscope Jubilee 2001. Since one picture is purportedly worth a thousand words, we are presenting the photographs in lieu of written descriptions.

People's Choice Award Winners

1 Winner



2

Winner



3

Winner



1. Marc Tickle & Susan Lundgren "Noveau" (slumped glass w/reverse painting) \$3,600 **1st-place winner**
2. Koji Yamami "Michael" (glass - ed. of 1) Not for sale, **2nd-place winner**
3. Judith Paul & Tom Durden "By the Sea" (fountain scope - ed. of 50) \$790, **3rd-place winner**

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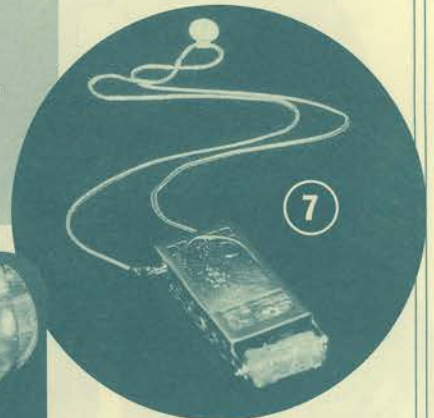
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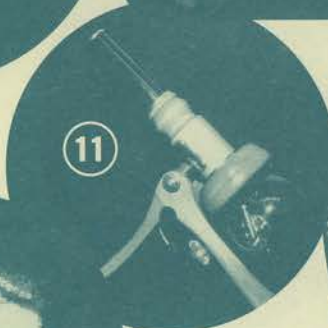
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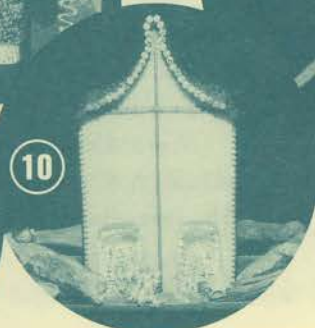
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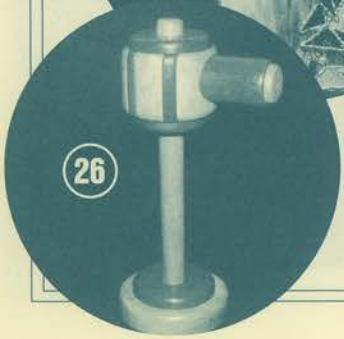
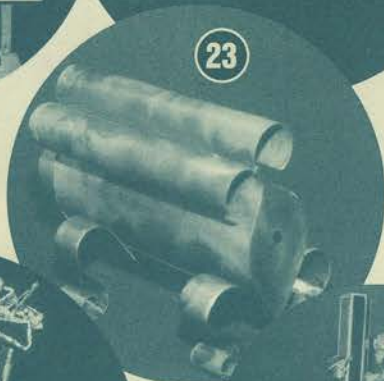
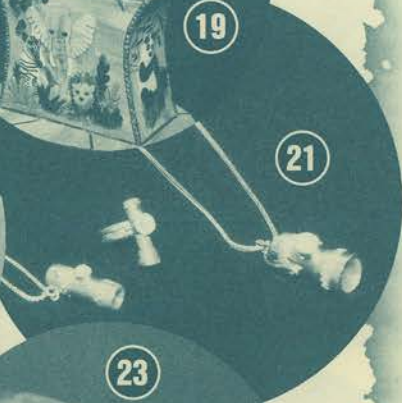
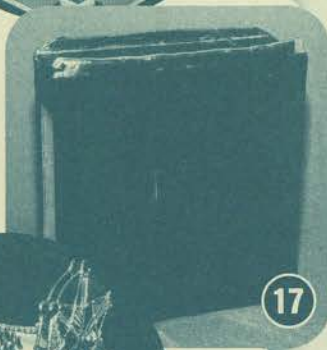
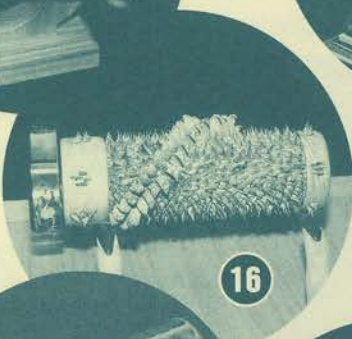


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4. Bill, Terry, & Stephanie Schulz "Merlin, the Magician" (porcelain) \$449
5. Rick Haseman "Galileo" (floor model - adj. hght - wood w/gears ed of 50) \$1,900
6. Jon Haven "Starlight 5" (wood) \$2,900
7. Ann & Shawn Lester "Celtic Rose Castle" (glass, silver & gold necklace, ed of 25) \$1,750
8. Mary Boll "Sweater Kaleidoscope" (fabric) \$70
9. Randy Knapp "Afreakin Dream" (blown glass necklace) \$390
10. David Sugich "Temple of Aphrodite" (glass - ed. of 1 gift to Dr. Ochi's museum)
11. Andrew & Robyn Leary "Spectrum II" (Glass and wood bubble scope - ed of 20) \$1,000
12. Sue Ross "Mother and Son" (ed. of 1 - in memory of her beloved son Jaime) \$4,000

SCOOPS ON SCOPES



The Kale

June 4, 1818-7

— submitted

Thou exquisite thing, of cylindrical frame,
 And angular mirror, and hard-sounding name!
 Thou plaything for sages, and mystery for boys,
 Thou prettiest of wonders and gravest of toys!
 Sure we never have seen, and we never shall see
 In this age of phenomena, aught like unto thee.

The musical box, and the musical ring
 The invisible girl, who could prattle and sing,
 were but trifles to thee, with thy shapes and thy hues,
 And thousands and thousands of varying views.

Do look at it Tom!, there, just shut one eye,
 And close to this hole let the other draw nigh.

Now give but a turn, or a touch or a shake,
 And behold what new figures and forms you can make!
 Keep looking, keep turning and looking... "Ye powers,"
 You exclaim, and "Good gracious, what millions of flowers!"

"Methinks I'm unwinding a long roll of prints,
 "Which they stamp upon room paper, carpets, or chintz,
 "Or such magnified snow-drops it seems to create
 "As the encyclopedia describes in the plate.

"Pray what is inside, that brings forth such creations,
 "And multiplies thousands of new combinations?
 "In the very same mould every figure is cast,
 "And yet each differs wide as can be from the last.

"Sometimes they begin from the centre to change...
 "Sometimes from the border their parts they arrange,
 "Sometimes they take leave with a lingering motion,
 "Or dart into view like a fish from the ocean.

"But tell me how far will this long series run?
 "Say, is it not wound up? Will it never be done?"

No, no, Tom, you talk like an ignorant goat,
 Come hear me explain the philosophy o't.

Take a couple of mirrors,...no, stay, I forgot...
 You've but one in the world...oh well that matters not.

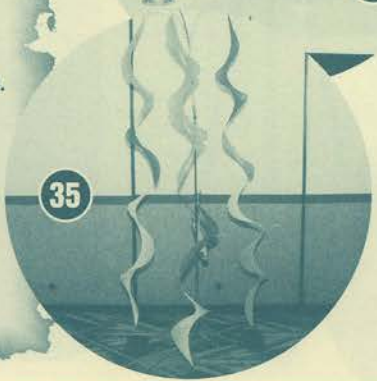
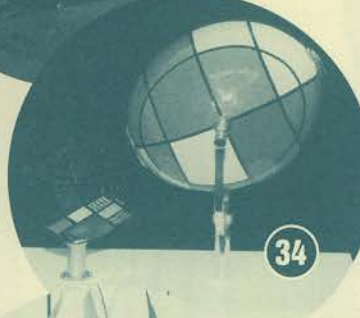
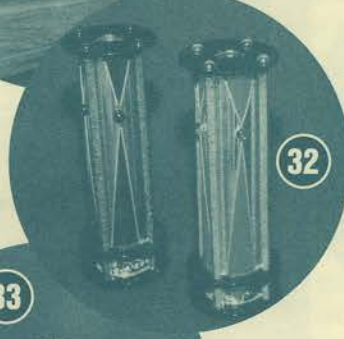
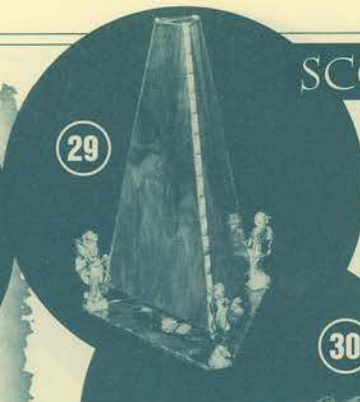
I've another...now let them be set face to face,
 Join'd below...but at top let them open a space.

Now snatch from Maria the rose she is wearing,
 While I hold the mirrors (well done, your are daring!)
 Hold now the same rose, with the leaves all complete,
 Just where at an angle the two mirrors meet....

Kaleidoscope

from the Boston Centinel

by Dan Robinson



And then, where the mirrors reflect, underneath;
 You will see a most perfect and beautiful wreath.
 And such is the mystery and principle Tom
 Which they have borrowed this wonderful instrument from,
 Within that tin tube you will find by inspecting,
 At an angle two small looking glasses reflecting.
 Then in lieu of the rose there are small bits of glass,
 Of all colours and sizes and shapes in a mass.
 Now for every appearance those pieces present,
 A circular six fold reflection is lent,
 And the least agitation these pieces sustain,
 Breaks up the old shapes, and forms new ones again.
 Why I've heard a great mathematician declare,
 Who is deeper in such things than you and I are,
 That if ever since Adam was formed from the ground,
 There was some one who turned a kaleidoscope round,
 And brought a new figure each second to view,
 There might never in all points, resembling, be two.
 But now let us leave permutations and combinations
 for thoughts we like better, dear Tom.
 We are poets...and poets don't oft take to counting,
 But on tropes and similes love to be mounting.
 Let us glance at this toy with a poet's fond eye,
 And to gather a moral we'll soberly try.
 Say, what is this world that we live in below?
 A kaleidoscope only...a plaything for show.
 Like the vanishing figures before us, we men
 Just melt into being and melt out again.
 Perhaps our whole lives, like those figures, supply,
 A moment's amusement to some anxious eye,
 That peeps from an opening in yon distant sphere,
 And listlessly views us while glimmering here,
 But why at this thought so subdued do you seem?
 We may wake up elsewhere...though 'tis here but a dream.
 Then, my friend, let us aim with unwearied strife,
 To perfect this fleeting, kaleidoscope life,
 And even if 'tis figure and colour alone,
 Let us shape it and brighten it well...till 'tis flown!

—Cambridge

13. Phil Coghill "Celestial Pilgrimage" (wood - ed. of 5) \$950
14. David Kalish "Kaleidoscraper" (made of legos - ed. of 5) \$1,975
15. Gary Allison "Holoscope" (Made of paper in various sizes - individually priced)
16. Bill Johnson "Marquis de Sadescope" (wood w/rose-bush thorns - ed. of 11) \$1,200.
17. Nitya Prema "Fire & Water" (Fused glass - first in a series)
18. Bob & Grace Ade "Ice Flowers" (glass) \$400
19. Janice Day "Safari" (glass - ed. of 3) \$3,200
20. Jerry Farnsworth "Three-Sense II" (wood- CD cabinet- Ltd. ed of 2) \$4,000
21. Deborah & Kevin Healy "Wonder Ring 2" and "Moonbeams Ensemble" \$985
22. Luc & Sallie Durette, and Earl McNeil "Earl's Garden" (wood parlor ed. of 25) \$1,800
23. Marcia Clark "Dance" (copper) Limited ed. \$996
24. Debra Davis "Wild Kaleido-flowers" (Stained glass) \$600
25. Bob & Jan Anderson "The Story-teller" (bronze - ed. of 10) \$295
26. David Collier "Look-out" (wood - ed. of 1) \$1,200
27. Ken & Dore Wilhoite "Hex Magic" (brass and aluminum - ed. of 25) \$795
28. Arny Weinstein "Tower" (wood) \$320
29. Kathleen Hunt "The Muses" (glass - ed.- 20) \$475
30. David & Debbie Rosenfeldt "Kain" (hand held- blown glass w/liquid orbs) \$500
31. David and Elena Piper "Pyramid" (wood) \$1,054
32. Laura Wilde "Ya Gotta Have an Angle" (acrylic w/mylar) \$190
33. Ann Porter "Ambient Flight II" (glass - ed. of 10) \$1,500
34. Frank Casciani "Eggs'uberant" Rubix (Ostrich Egg Parlor Scope, ed. of 10) \$750
35. Yoshio Takase "Wind of San Diego" (iron and fabric - ed. of 1) \$600

SCOOPS ON SCOPES

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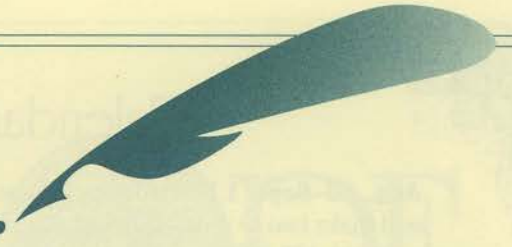
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- 36. (2) Steve Failows (ceramic scope w/sandblasted pattern) \$110
- 37. (3) Massimo Strino "Eldorado & Moonbeam" (gold foil & leather) \$230-270
- 38. (4) Yuriko & Mitsuru Yoda "Arisa's Merry-Go-Round" (gold-plated brass - ed. of 10)
- 39. (5) Henry Bergeson "The new marble scope" (wood) \$370
- 40. (6) Masatu Kawakami "Black Hole" (glass w/4switch motor - ed. of 1) \$600
- 41. (7) Ben Ansley "Apple Scope" (alabaster) \$86
- 42. (9) R. Scott Cole PVC Scope w/stickers \$10
- 43. Robert & Jocelyn Cook "Universal Horseless Traction Engine" (brass & copper- ed. of 1) \$4,200
- 44. Charles Karadimos "Pacific Dream" (Glass - ed. of 5) \$4,200
- 45. Alfonso Bravo "Cosmico" (Glass) \$150 and "Rocko" (Glass) \$440
- 46. Carolyn Bennett "Quadra" (laquered - internal light - ed. of 24) \$850
- 47. Sheryl Koch and Kate O'Neil "Trinity" (floor model - ed. of 30) \$1,350
- 48. Corki Weeks (metal floor model - ed. of 100) \$1,000
- 49. Will Smith "Fountain of Youth" (pewter finish - w/ 12 lbs of marbles) \$1,600
- 50. William & Carole Hutchison "Carole's Dream 2" (motorized alum. wheel scope) \$14,000

Dear Cory . . .



DEAR FELLOW LOVERS OF KALEIDOSCOPIES,

I just felt like writing to tell you the story of how I came to find your society... The year 2001 had been the most miserable of my life so far. I developed two diseases, my father-in-law died, my mother got Alzheimer's, my dear old cat was badly injured and on top of all that, burglars stole all our valuables, including my beautiful kaleidoscope that I had found in a shop in Stockholm about seven years ago. I used to take it with me on long train journeys, and use it when I felt low (and all those things probably only scope freaks understand.) That shop doesn't exist anymore and nobody in Sweden seems to know that kaleidoscopes can be anything but toys. In fact, mine was the only one I'd ever seen.

So I set out to search the Internet for kaleidoscopes (when we replaced our stolen computer). After skimming through the thousands of sites that use the word in a figurative sense, I landed on "Kaleidoscopes of America" and The Brewster Society. I went into a total rapture. Well, the real rapture actually came after I ordered and received Cozy Baker's *Kaleidoscopes: Wonders of Wonder*. I've read it over and over. What a pity no one in Sweden, and very few in Europe, seem to be interested in selling them.

This obsession of mine since I got Cozy Baker's book has kept my head above the water for the last month. It has been my joy of life among all problems. So, do you think I qualify to be a member of the Brewster Society? I hereby apply for a membership. If you know of any shops that sell quality scopes in Europe, please email: bert@algonet.se

Your most affectionate Birgitta Bengtsson

When photographer **Elliott Topp** is not taking pictures, he and his wife Rita are busy presenting programs on the history and development of the kaleidoscope at the art department of their local college in Long Island, New York

REPRINTED FROM *THE EVANSVILLE DAILY COURIER*, JULY 5, 1886

[SUBMITTED BY DAN ROBINSON]

Kaleidoscopes are made to sell at from 5 cents to \$5 each, the latter (made in Providence, R.I.) being used a great deal by carpet designers and for like purposes. In a factory in New York a reporter found five girls at work before a long desk, this being their system of operations: The first young woman wraps black paper about the glass reflectors which produce the optical illusion. These strips of glass, when thus arranged and fastened together, form the body of the kaleidoscope. The next girl simply inserts united reflectors into the pasteboard cover and then passes the octagonal pasteboard tube to her neighbor. Number three adjusts the brass ring which secures the glass disks in the end.

Between the disks or colored plates are placed the scraps of colored glass, the beads, and various trinkets which tumble about as the kaleidoscope is revolved, and when reflected by the mirrors form themselves into ever-shifting, fantastic forms. The other young women are armed with hammers to break the colored glass into fragments. The colored glass is obtained from the waste scraps, purchased very cheap at stained glass manufacturing factories. —*Chicago Herald*

Brewster Bulletin Board

- Lost — A black jacket was put in a tote bag that was left on the lunch cruise. Will the person who picked up the tote please contact Lois Kline (216-442-7251).
- If there is a sold-out edition scope you wish to buy or sell, please write or email the Brewster Society. There will be a list in the next newsletter.
- Brewster member Bill Davis, in Salisbury, NC, is now doing custom machine work for artists. He will make prototypes and small runs of precision bearing assemblies, object cells, and the like. (704)279-8542 or email sdavis30@carolina.rr.com
- There are a few of the "Jubilee 2001" commemorative scopes available — \$30 includes shipping.

Calendar of Kaleidoscope Events

Aug. 26–Sept. 1 Kaleidoscope course at John C Campbell Folk School welcomes every skill level — participants will make two or more different glass scopes during week of classes, taught by Stephen Underberg. For more info call: 914-478-3034

Aug. 10–Sept. 9 Davlins 10th annual National Kaleidoscope Exhibit — “A Scope Odyssey” Davlins at Southdale, Edina, MN — See over 200 incredible new scopes by more than 40 artists. Featuring Henry Bergeson and other artists, with classes by Kay Winkler and Scott Cole. For details, call 952-926-6838 or visit their website www.kaleido.com

Sept. 7–10 Northeast regional “September Scope-about” see article on page 1

Now–Sept. 9 Baltimore Antique Quilt Tradition at the Maryland Historical Society Heritage Gallery, 201 West Monument St., Baltimore, MD 410-685-3750

Oct. 6–7 Hand of the Craftsman — An “Open-Shop” and Garden Party will celebrate the recent opening at their new location, 152 Main St., Nyack, New York - 914-358-6622. Visit their website: www.kaleidoscopesUSA.com

Oct. 13–Dec. 24 Eileen Kremen Gallery, “Kaleidoscope Celebration 2001” (their 26th scope exhibit) will feature 46 artists. Opening reception Oct. 13, from 1-5, with special guests: David Collier, Jon Haven, and scope photographer Sharon Jackson, 619 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, CA For more info 714-879-1391 or visit their website at <http://members.aol.com/ekremen>

Oct. 14–Nov. 3 The Artists’ Works, 32 W. Chicago Ave., Naperville, IL Ninth Annual Scope Exhibition. Opening reception for scope artists Marc and Susan Lundren-Tickle, Sunday, Oct. 14, noon – 4:00. Call 630-357-3774 for additional details.

THE BREWSTER SOCIETY

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