

The Brewster Society

NEWS SCOPE

A newsletter for designers, collectors and lovers of kaleidoscopes

Vol. 6, Number 2
Summer 1991

Third Brewster Convention is Bubbling Success

Creative individualism within the unity of one group was perfectly manifested during the recent convention. Those in attendance had the opportunity to explore a fresh sense of wonder—liberated from logic!

Even the star entertainment, Bubble Magic, was a study in wonderment. Tom Noddy's performance was a calculated combination of science and play.



Tom Noddy and Randi Rehs

BUBBLESSENCE

*Bubbles enfold the laughter of fairies
Shimmering and floating in spheres of light
Iridescent illusions explode...multiply
Creating ephemeral fantasies in flight!*

A showing of Barbara Mitchell's magnificent SpectraSphere was the high point of the opening meeting; bringing tears to the eyes of some, exclamations to the lips of others, and wonderment to the hearts of all—a truly moving experience which prompted a standing ovation.

One of the major items of business was the announcement that next year's 4th convention will be held in conjunction with Strathmore Hall's Fourth Kaleidoscope Exhibition.

Strathmore Hall is located in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C. So mark your 1992 calendars now for April 3, 4 and 5.

Sherry Moser's "Journey" was awarded the Brewster Award for Creative Ingenuity. Using a distinctly unique process, the mirrors themselves become an integral part of the total image in Sherry's new scope. This represents quite a breakthrough in kaleidoscope construction (see page 5).

Scopes are for Giving

The Brewster Society—"a living kaleidoscope"—is beginning a program to share the kaleidoscope's wondrous magic with those unable to go out and find it. We are going to dedicate our efforts to providing scopes to children's hospitals, nursing homes, hospice groups and the like. (See related story on page 2.)

To launch this "philanscopic" endeavor, Randy and Shelly Knapp very generously donated number 1 of their important new "Interplanetary Craft" series as a silent auction item. The high bid was \$1,950 (the suggested retail price) and the high bidder was Cheryl Leppla.

Arrangements are currently being made to present a half-scale model of the largest scope in the world by Al Brickel to the Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health. This is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that is deeply concerned for the whole child and his or her family as they meet the challenge of chronic illness.

The Children's Inn opened in June 1990 and is located on the grounds of NIH in suburban Washington, D.C. Here, families can live in a homelike environment with their children while the youngsters receive some of the most advanced medical care available. The building itself is an architectural gem with many rooms appropriate to house this special kaleidoscope gift from the Brewster Society.

Scopes are for Giving, Part II

James Mindrup makes kaleidoscopes for giving—not selling—and he gives them not only in his name, but in association with The Brewster Society.

Recipients of Jim's beautifully handcrafted wooden scopes are children hospitalized in the Scottish Rite Children's Medical Center and CURE, Childhood Cancer and Leukemia Center; both are in Atlanta, Ga.

Jim says his reward is in knowing the children are enjoying them as reflected in a letter from the Executive Director of CURE, "...please know that the hands of many children with cancer will turn one of your woodscopes to see the designs and color. You will have brightened their lives."

Roni Mintz of the Scottish Rite Children's Medical Center wrote Jim, "at present we are looking into the possibility of placing your exquisite scopes in our Oncology Clinic, perhaps the infusion room. The children stay in that area for many hours, and we're thinking this will be an ideal location."

Color Meditation

Joyce Lowder's color meditation was another convention highlight. Her presentation focused on how the kaleidoscope symbolizes the life journey of individuals through seasons of growth. The following poem was one of her references:

Life is Change—Growth is Optional

*We grow through many seasons.
One blends into the other like the strands
of a braid. It is not possible to separate
them without spoiling how beautifully
they flow together.*

*We too are a blend of so many pieces.
Some of our needs are out of season.
Some of our wounds still ache to be healed.
So many buds await to be blossomed.*

*We move through the seasons together.
Each cycles at his or her own pace. Yet each is
a part of the other. In time, a pattern appears,
woven by the choices we have made.*

—Karen Kaiser Clark



Amy Donarski helps master of ceremonies, Cliff Kuhn draw the lucky door prize winners.

Hand of the Craftsman's New Baby— Hand of the Craftsman 2

Since the arrival of its first kaleidoscope in the mid-1970s, Hand of the Craftsman has seen its scope collection grow to nearly fill its shop at 58 South Broadway, in the village of Nyack, New York, just outside New York City.

For many years, scope enthusiasts have been enjoying their optical treats while relaxing on a bar stool at the oak and brass KaleidoBar.

Now in its 20th year, Hand of the Craftsman has a new baby sister. Located a short stroll north of the original location, Hand of the Craftsman 2 will provide the space needed for exciting shows relating to the whole spectrum of the kaleidoscope world—graphics, art and fine hand craft—all by U.S. artists.

Coinciding with the July 6 grand opening will be an exhibit entitled Order & Chaos, featuring the work of Donald Leinbach who coaxes flamboyantly beautiful images called "fractals" from his big-screen color computer by means of complex mathematical formulae. These are then reproduced as fine art prints, in limited editions. For more information and directions, call 914-358-6622 between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. seven days a week.

Banquet Favors

This year's commemorative memento was a handsome pair of black glass coasters by Kafka with a sparkling kaleidoscope image imprinted in foil, designed by Adam Peiperl. There are a few of these sets still available for those who would like them. Set of two coasters (each with a different image), \$12. Send check to the Brewster Society.

Cupid Attends Convention

Luc Durette proposed to Sallie Hollenbach right in the midst of an animated workshop as the whole group waited with baited breath for Sallie's rather flabbergasted "Yes." The following day, they announced the wedding date—August 12.



Another couple, Sabrina Diehr and Leslie Martin, in a one week pre-wedding celebration brought three members of the bride's family all the way from Germany to join in our kaleidoscope festivities.

Mary Lou Donarski won a door prize, but said she wouldn't have accepted it since her daughter Amy was drawing the numbers, except the name of the scope was "April in Paris" (a collaboration of Glenn Straub and Carolyn Bennett) and Mary Lou had bought her very first scope in Paris and yes, you guessed it—in April! Also, she owns every single Straub scope except this one.

The Donarskis also won the convention's on-going Scavenger Hunt, finding not only the most items—but in the shortest period of time. Ray thought the deadline was Friday evening at 8 instead of Sunday night. So, he, Amy and Mary Lou spent a frenzied afternoon searching for 31 kaleidoscopes. The hunt involved several cab rides (even to adjoining states), a dozen long distance fax messages, a fast-paced bar hopping jaunt, and a few rather hefty purchases, complete with an embarrassing "pilfering" incident. Ray's 6-page letter would make a fun program at a Brewster meeting.

New Book on Sir Brewster Discovered

DISCIPLES OF LIGHT



PHOTOGRAPHS IN
THE BREWSTER ALBUM

Published by the J. Paul Getty Museum in 1990, Disciples of Light: Photographs in the Brewster Album, contains almost 200 pictures. Graham Smith has put together a handsome book which chronicles the early dawn of photography in Scotland, in which Brewster played an important role. Even the notes on each photograph shed new light on Brewster's varied life and career. A few copies are available from the

Brewster Society for \$50, plus \$2 for postage.

You're Invited...

Northwest Brewster Meeting

There is still time to register for the Seattle Brewster Meeting to be held July 19, 20, 21. Reservations can be made at the Mayflower Park Hotel (\$100 per night). Earl McNeil will give a talk and demonstration on polarization. Randy and Shelley Knapp will discuss dichroic glass and Luc Durette and Sallie Hollenbach will conduct a workshop on how to make scopes. Saturday night's big bash will be an Indian Salmon Roast on nearby Blake Island (\$32 per person.) Call Cheryl Leppla at 206-938-3475 for more info.

Midwest Brewster Meeting

August 10th & 11th are the dates for the Midwest section of the Brewster Society which will be held at a brand new 500-acre State park just outside Omaha, Neb.

The preliminary agenda includes presentations by Ward Robison and Tom Seidel on mirror arrangements, glass slumping and fusing techniques by Steve Kittleson and Peggy Burnside. Ralph Olson of the Platte River Kaleidoscope Company will present scopes made of ostrich eggs and everyone is invited for spirits, snacks, and scopes and the opportunity to view Bruce Haney's "Up Through the Roof" scope.

Pat and Randy Keyes hope to have a "demo" video showing some of the footage of the convention in Louisville. A video of the Magic Lanterns of 100 years ago will be shown as well as a video of Barbara Mitchell's SpectraSphere.

For more information and registration, contact Bruce Haney at 1-800-444-0587, or write to him at 1514 So. 106th St., Omaha, Neb. 68124.

In Memoriam

Our deepest sympathy to kaleidoscope artist, Kay Winkler, whose beloved husband and partner, Jim, died of a heart attack on the way home from the convention. It is a comfort to know that his last days with us were spent so happily.

SCOOPS ON SCOPES

by guest editor Linda Shellenberger, owner of The Nestegg in Bar Harbor, Maine

Sir David Brewster, if he were able to visit us at the recent Brewster Society Convention in Louisville, would probably exclaim "just look at what I started"...and be absolutely delighted with the results! And so to continue...Once Upon a Time in the land of imagination there lived a talented group of men and women who created visions of such mesmerizing beauty that we begged for more! And, our wishes were granted by a star studded cast...

Randy and Shelley Knapp presented two new very different models, skillfully crafted as always. "Vorticalation" is a sleek contemporary presentation sculpted of wenge (a rich, dark wood)

which contrasts beautifully with figured maple. Sixty pieces of hand-blown glass are suspended in fluid which is rotated vertically. As the title implies, the viewer is drawn into a whirlpool of color, light and motion. Though dramatically different in design, this scope does not require a large display area, but it definitely commands attention! Limited edition.

"Fly By" summons up images of a futuristic space vehicle you think you saw "fly by" but aren't quite sure. This marvel in lace wood, wenge, zebrawood and birdseye maple is a pedestal model which pivots in any position and can be detached from the base and hand-held. A beautifully designed arched handle is reflected again in the arched pedestal base. Attention to detail is noted in the blown glass accents set into the handle, contrasting wood for the eyepiece and inlay at the base. Custom designed and uniquely shaped liquid filled ampules by Dennis and Diane Falconer, along with latticino teardrops and dichroic glass form a heavenly six pointed star image. Limited edition of 125.

Luc Durette and Sallie Hollenbach unveiled *Aurora* (the Greek Goddess of Dawn), aptly named for design and concept. The exterior is composed of maple and the special handblown Fremont glass in



The unveiling of new scopes provided many magical moments.

delicate hues compliments the wood to perfection. One of the two interchangeable scopes slide down into the base affording a choice of three different mirror systems: two trays; one lined with black velvet can hold fresh flowers for summer viewing, autumn leaves, holly and berries for winter, or ferns for spring. The second tray with a white background holds delicate shells and flame-worked glass in soft lovely pinks and mauve tones (or your choice of objects). The third option included is two oversized wheels containing lush handpainted silks with entrancing designs. Many months went into the conception of this model. Beautifully executed and stunning—the *Aurora* is a gem for the collector!

Charles Karadimos whose museum quality images set a standard for perfection has introduced two new innovations. "Oblique Cone" is a parlor scope model with dry filled glass ampules which form a 12 point system of intense beauty via one of the two large wheels which slide into the back of the scope. An added feature is a battery powered light with a 30-second turn off option; it is rechargeable.

The shape of Charles' new "Delta II" is the only similarity to his Delta Bi-ocular. The exterior features decorative fusing to the slumped glass casing. A

modification to the Delta's mirror system produces a unique 3-D spiraling tunnel-like effect easily viewed with both eyes.

Janice and Ray Chesnik unveiled "Qunitet", a handsome, large barrelled solid brass parlor scope on a brass tripod. The unique feature is five viewing apertures in one scope showing off the beauty of Janice's Fiesta wheels via each of five different mirror systems. Turn off the TV! You now have five channels on your scope. This limited edition of 250 is a natural on the desk of any executive.



Sherry Moser

Sherry Moser takes us into other realms with her newest creation, entitled "The Journey." This hand-held model sports a wide, upright base ready for take-off through the galaxy! Planets and stars are sand-blasted onto a cobalt blue glass exterior which gives a

hint of what's inside. A vision of the night sky sets you on your own personal "journey" through the starry heavens. A rocket ship motif above the eyepiece indicates the best way to hold the scope for full enjoyment.

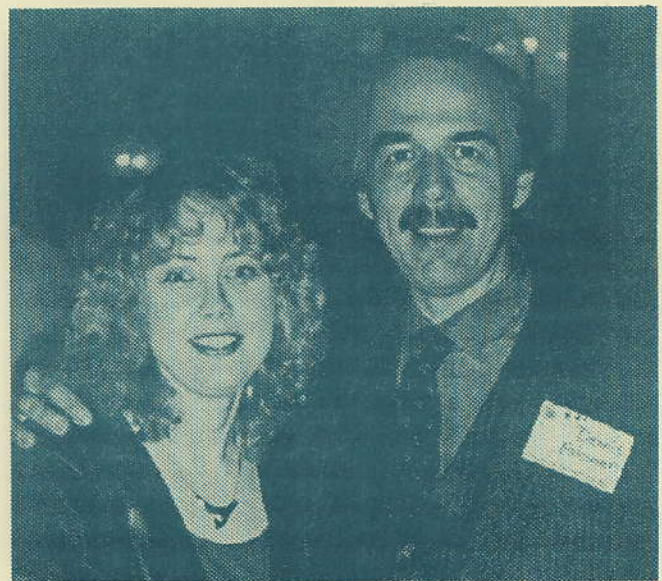
Amy Hnatko's sculptural fantasies in glass have emerged in a totally new concept for the kaleidoscope. Imagine, if you will, a 3-tier water fountain in white iridescent glass, each tier with removable flowers in colored stained glass. Each of the three tiers can be turned as well as each individual flower giving you endless viewing possibilities. The fountain is lit from below throwing light up through the tiers. The kaleidoscope itself is a separate pedestal model in stained glass with two three dimensional stained glass flowers which grace the body of the scope and fountain. The angle of the scope can be adjusted to view the top, middle or bottom tier. The visual beauty of this "Fountain of Light" both outside and through the lens combined with the delicate sound of water make this truly a collector's dream...it provides a link with nature in the most beautiful sense. Number 1 of this limited edition of 5 already has a home at Cozy's!

Stephen Colley of Gallocolley Glass rose to the occasion, as always, with pure artistry in the form of a large elegant parlor scope named "Lord Byron," which incorporates an antique candlestick rising like a phoenix to support the scope itself. Two cameos embellish the base and the delicate touch of a small piece of opal glass art is typical of the wonderful detail for which both Stephen and Carmen are well-known.

A white iridescent glass scope body is highlighted by contrasting colored glass and dichroic glass embellishment. Two very large fantasy glass wheels of intense beauty complete this latest one-of-a-kind vision.

Barbara Mitchell exhibited a unique scope reminiscent of a Faberge egg. Its exterior displays a hand-sculpted serpent coiled around a wonderful shimmering egg as though to protect the precious secrets inside as well as the hundreds of tiny Austrian rhinestones on the outside. It features a 2-mirror image and has a detachable strap to enable one to accessorize an elegant evening outfit.

Dennis and Diane Falconer introduced "Goldfire," a medium-sized parlor scope in goldtone metal offset with a walnut base. The scope has a polarized image and contains handblown liquid filled ampules complete with magnification for a large, clear image. A walnut encased battery operated light shows off the elegant images inside.



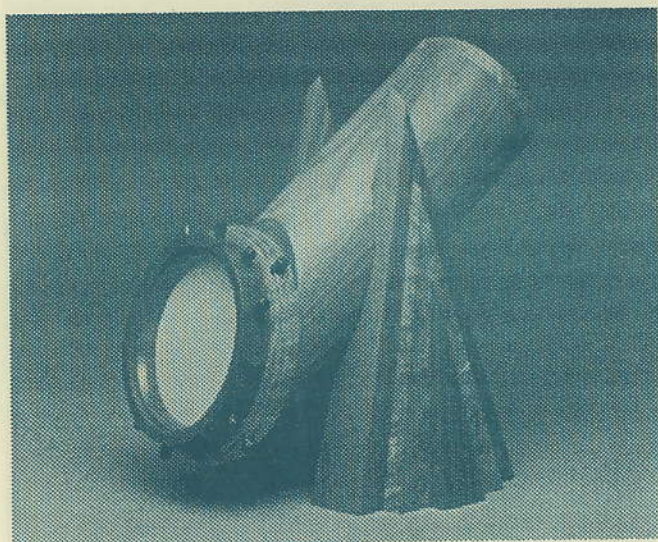
Dennis and Diane Falconer introduced their new creation, "Goldfire."

The "Walking Cane Scope" will give a new bounce to your step, thanks to creator **James Dana Hill**, who has scored a "first" with this innovative design. A solid brass end-turning scope resides atop a walking cane protected by a brass cap which in true kaleidoscope fashion, gives nary a hint of the visions inside. Just unscrew the cap, lift out the scope and enjoy. The cane can be disassembled for travelling or storage.

Karl Schilling gives us a total change of pace with "Introspection I", the first in a series of glass sculptures relating life to the visions of beauty and intro-

spection in a kaleidoscope. The symbolism is beautifully executed in a clear frosted sandcast sculpture of a standing figure with a chiseled limestone base. Projecting from the figure where the heart would be is a copper end turning scope. Though Kart is new to the scope world, I believe his vision is far reaching and will add to the wide range of work available in this art form.

Stephen Gray, of Gray & Gray Woodwrights, always elicits great expectations, and he fulfills them with "Phantasmic Stratums." This futuristic parlor scope is crafted in black walnut with ebony accents. The outside is as impressive as the dramatically different honeycomb weave image inside. "Aberrations Within the Eye Chamber" in black walnut, accented with maple burl shows a very different design concept outside as well as inside. Visualize parasols strung together floating in space—their composition resembling soft hues of colored diamonds as they catch the light.

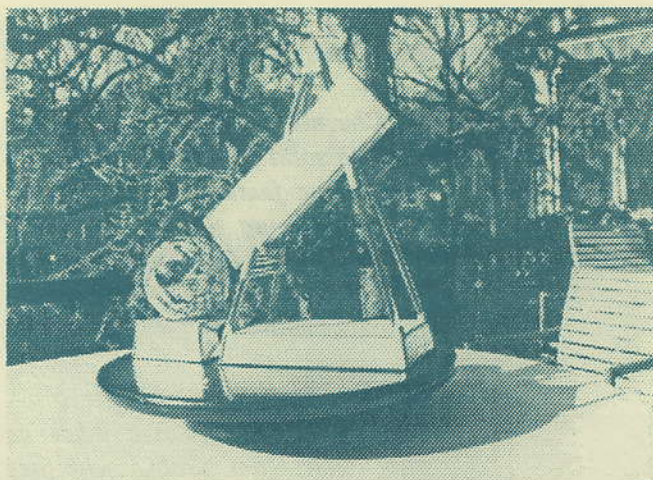


"Aberrations Within the Eye Chamber" by Stephen Gray.

Sam Douglas presented a hand-held single wheel scope, named *Galaxy Glass* in lucite whose exterior is painted in swirls of color. The interior transports you to a magical realm located beyond our galaxy with rising crystal towers and cascading hues of color.

Carolyn Bennett Presented her newest addition—this time in an end-turning brass model which was filled with African trade beads and antique glass. Christened "*Quintessence*," it features a 2-mirror image for a sharp, focused interior.

In a nautical frame of mind, we cast off for a look at a hand-turned mahogany pedestal model with one of the two wheels fashioned after a sailboat wheel,



"Pyramuse" by Sugito and Shantidevi featuring five-inch handblown sphere.

complete with a seagull. Designed by Lauren Demuth of *Dad n' Me*, this was the scope presented to President George Bush last year.

Paul Larsen has come to the rescue with some scope accessories which are sure to add to your viewing enjoyment! For you lazy bones who love scopes, but don't want to hold the hand-held models, Paul has the "Universal Parlor Stand" which accommodates all sizes of hand-held scopes. His "Viewing Aid Kit" will come as great news for those who need a little sharper focus! Paul will custom-make the lens with your prescription. The "View Kit" contains a lap tray, halogen light with adjustable light control, and a white view card for distortion-free viewing.

Olympic Scopes! Jazz Scopes!

Gemini Kaleidoscopes has just completed a commemorative scope for the International Olympics. One will be included in each participant's gym bag.

Sue Ross was asked to design a scope for jazz musician, Miles Davis. Filled with mementos of his dual interests, jazz and abstract art, the decorative scope was presented to Davis in New York on his 65th birthday.



Dear Cozy,

Dear Cozy,

What a convention! It was beyond our expectations. We enjoyed being with all the "Kaleido-folks." There was a wonderful energy that we felt throughout the convention. Thanks to everyone who made it the great event it was!

Chuck, Donna & Karl Schilling



Dear fellow kaleidoscope addict,

I read an article about you in my local paper and then heard about you from another fellow in Fredericksburg, Tx. He thought you'd be interested in my work with Psychiatric patients using kaleidoscopes. i've collected about 60 of assorted types of these wonderful works of art and I use them in working with all ages and diagnoses. The way I work with them is to ask each person to choose a favorite and then describe the object as if they were describing themselves. They use color, movement, form, etc. as analogies and metaphors. The message is that our choices of every moment reflect Self in some way. I then ask if they would change their true colors for other people if rejected for whom they are to test their ego strength.

This is a favorite session for all my patients/clients. Also, the Recreational therapist will sometimes follow up by having them make their own simple kaleidoscope as a permanent, transitional object to take home.

*Yours in healthy addiction,
Carol (Kaki) Doogs, R.N., M.P.S., A.T.R.*

Dear Cozy,

Before coming to Rome, I spoke to you on the phone & you said you didn't know any stores with Kaleidoscopes in the area. Well, it has been difficult to find but there is one: Citta del Sole, Via della Scrofa, 65. The problem is they only had scopes from England and America.

I pass that address on to you for your files but I would ask that perhaps you might be able to place an inquiry in the NewsScope regarding scopes in Rome or Italy, especially Italian or European made.

My assignment is for about a year more and I would very much like to find some Italian scopes. Any inquiries or information would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for all your help and considerations.

*Richard Cavellier
via Dell 'Ultima, 30
00187, Rome, Italy*

Dear Cozy,

I'd like to tell you about a very special fundraising event called "Person of Vision" (POV) in which we honor a person who brought a bold community vision to fruition.

Several affiliates of the National Society to Prevent Blindness have POV dinners, but as far as I know we're the only one to choose a kaleidoscope as our Person of Vision award. We feel this is the ultimate celebration of vision.

We just had our "second annual dinner in March (1991) and we look forward to a long tradition. We hope our Person of Vision kaleidoscope award will come to be a cherished possession in Louisville.

Jo Anne Hohman

Dear Cozy,

I think everyone was overwhelmed with the fantastic new scopes that were unveiled. Could it get any better?! Suffice to say that of all the great meetings, this one seemed to us the very best. Thanks again, dear...for all you do to make the scope world such a pleasant place.

Betty Tribe

Dear Cozy,

I would like to thank all the Brewsters who contributed to the success of Kaleidoscopes for Connoisseurs VI! As a committee member for the past several years I can truthfully say this was the best show yet! So many of you came up to thank us but it is you also who must be thanked. I'm not saying it's not a lot of hard work but we get so much out of the show ourselves. We feel we are welcoming back part of our "family" to Kentucky.

As a collector i would like to thank the artists who again blessed us with their creative genius. The new black backgrounds and pieces were so exciting!

We missed some old faces and hope to see everyone at Strathmore! And thanks for all the laughter, friends. Now back to mowing the bluegrass in Kentucky!

Connie Kuhn

Calendar of Kaleidoscopic Events

- Now through July 31** "Wonder of Kaleidoscopes," Lisle Depot Museum, 119 Burlington Ave., Lisle, Illinois. Contact Paul Larsen at 708-420-7119.
- July 7— August 25** Kaleidoscopes from the Cozy Baker Collection, Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, Md. 301-739-5727.
- July 27— September 8** SITES, Reflections of Art and Science, Buhl Science Center, Allegheny Square, Pittsburgh, Penn. 412-237-3300.
- July 19, 20, and 21** Brewster Society Northwest Meeting. Seattle, Wash. Call Cheryl Leppla for details at 206-938-3475.
- August 10-11** Brewster Society Midwest Meeting. Omaha, Neb. Call Bruce Haney at 1-800-444-0587.
- Sept. 13, 14, and 15** Kaleidoscope Demonstration by Karl Schilling (during fall antique show), The Glass Scope, 314 Main St., Riverfront Center, Red Wing, Minn. For info., call 612-388-2048.
- Sept. 22 10 a.m.-10 p.m.** Autumn Invitational: "New Works by Old Favorites." Visit with Cozy Baker, who will be signing her newest book, Kaleidorama, and meet the artists and fellow collectors over champagne and munchies. Hand of the Craftsman, 58 So. Broadway, Nyack, N.Y. 914-358-6622.
- Sept. 29— Oct 31** Kaleidoscopes and Wearable Art, Mykonos, Glen Eagle Square, Chadds Ford, Penn. tel. 215-558-8000. Gala opening fashion show, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2-5 p.m.

THE BREWSTER SOCIETY

100 Severn Avenue-Suite 605
Annapolis, MD 21403
(301) 365-1855

NEWS SCOPE

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Illustrator—Jan Haber
Consultant—Carolyn Bennett

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