

The Brewster Society

NEWS SCOPE



A newsletter for designers, collectors and lovers of kaleidoscopes

Vol. 13, Number 2
Summer 1998

Scoops on Unveiled Scopes

Editor's Note: With the wonders unveiled at the recent convention, it seemed appropriate to start this issue of the News Scope with a review of the newest and best.

by David Meelheim

Though outdoor temperatures soared above 90 degrees at Kaleido Galaxy '98, the atmosphere inside was cool. So cool in fact, that ice seemed to dominate the much anticipated unveiling of new scopes.



The interior of "Crystal Rapture."

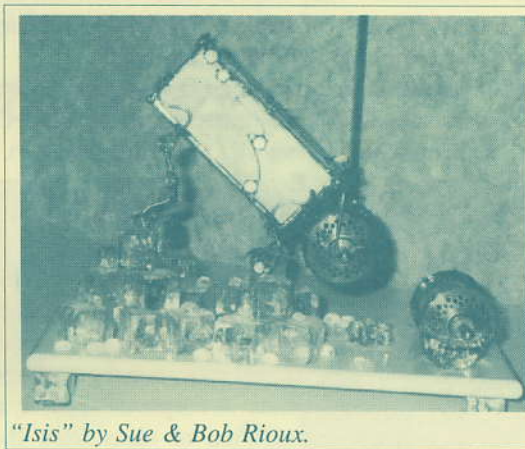
Bob and Grace Ade set the sub-thermal stage with "Crystal Rapture," the fourth in their crystal series, its interior image inspired by an "ice" capade into the frozen north of Alaska. A limited edition of 15. Suggested retail price, \$1,800.

Will Smith added "Ice Floe" to his line of liquid wave scopes, featuring a 30-60-90 degree mirror system, and hand-folded holographic pieces that float amongst the "ice." Retail price, \$210.

Sue and Bob Rioux presented "Isis," a one-of-a-kind parlor scope that rests on a formation of dichroic and glass ice cubes. A two-mirror system accentuates the dichroic barrel and interchangeable oil-filled cell.

Both the image and interior of **Carolyn Bennett's** dynamic new "Odylic IV" seemed to be frosted or etched in ice. Limited edition of 20, suggested retail price, \$500.

With all of the ice forming in the unveiling room, and MGM studios right around the corner, I for one would have been very disappointed if not for the presentation of "Titanic" by **David Kalish**. Actually, more scale model than scope, it is an impressive demonstration of painstaking precision. Three of the four smokestacks

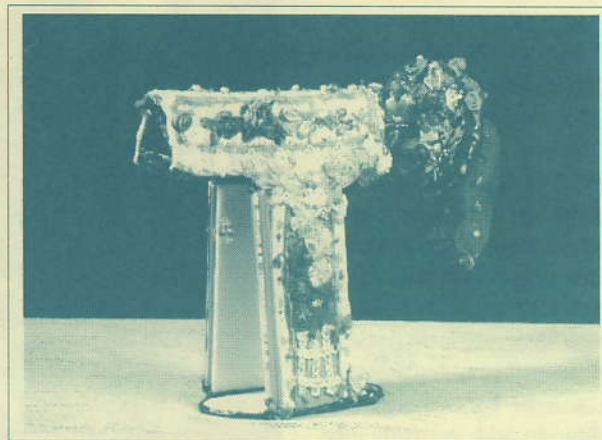


"Isis" by Sue & Bob Rioux.

contain small optical systems, and the 1,200 hand-drilled holes allow the interior lighting system to illuminate the great ship. A one-of-a-kind, "Titanic" sails for \$5,000 (photo on page 5).

Then there were some indicators that summer is nearly upon us. **Sue Ross** unveiled "Susan's Flower Garden," and **Laura Wilde** presented "The Secret Garden," each a lovely representation of the flowers and gardens that inspired their creation.

(continued on page 3)



The age-old art of silk ribbon embroidery is revived by Sue Ross. Dozens of intricate flowers are stitched into each of her one-of-a-kind "Flower Garden" scopes.

Making a Difference

"A hundred years from now it may not matter what kind of car I drove, the kind of house I lived in or how much money was in my bank account. What will matter is the fact that I made a difference in the life of a child." This anonymous quote could well be the maxim of Project K.

Brewster Society members met at the recent convention to exchange ideas for the expansion of Project K. **Lisa and Cru Chase** reported increased student participation and academic success through the implementation of Project K. They are convinced that the impact of the kaleidoscope as a learning tool to improve students' self-esteem, build a sense of community, link curriculum areas, and produce academic results can be monumental! They hope to create a network of educational resources that will help raise learning standards and values through the study of the kaleidoscope.

Cozy Baker is endorsing their endeavor with both financial and moral support. A committee comprising Janice Chesnik (artist), Ann Franklin (Collector), Lynn Gitter (retailer), Nancy Leonard (teacher), Brett Bensley (technology programmer), and Cru and Lisa Chase (Project K developers) will work collaboratively to expand this educational network. Networking will include sharing information on educational resources and professional development opportunities for teachers, on-line mentoring by scope artists, two-way communications for students in different schools, and educational grant opportunities for project implementation. A corporate sponsor, university partner, and the contribution of ideas from Brewster Society members are needed.

If you, too, are inspired to participate on any level with this project, please contact Lisa and Cru Chase: 174 Chase Road, Shokan, NY, 12481 (914)657-8142, e-mail: atwlearns@ulster.net. Your support continues to create mandalas of color in the hearts of children!

Project (K)aleidoscope (Project K), is happy to announce a silent auction to be held on-line. The students of North Rockland High School, NY, have designed and built six one-of-a-kind kaleidoscopes. Brewster members may view and bid on the scopes via Brett Bensley's web site, Kaleidoscope Heaven, or at the school's web site at <http://norock.lhric.org/nrhs/index/html>. All proceeds from the sale will be benefit charities worldwide and are fully tax deductible. Scopes will be shipped to the winners by the close of the summer.



This charming B & B could be yours!

Cosmetic Tips on Color Therapy

Color at your finger tips or right at the tip of your lips, "as a satellite to the divine," is the focus of a new cosmetic line. Tony & Tina products serve as a reminder to turn our attentions inward to the positive healing properties of color energy. Tony (Anthony Gill) and Tina (Christina Bornstein) combine art and cosmetics with their metaphysical belief in color. They want to prove that attention to color in their nail polish and lipstick can be therapeutic as well as cosmetic.



"We believe mass consciousness is changing," Tony elaborates, "evolving to the next evolutionary step where the physical and spiritual worlds merge. Our bodies are made up of energy, and there are vibrational remedies that can help align our energy centers, or chakras. Each of the seven chakras is associated with a specific color. The electromagnetic vibrations of these colors cleanse the body and mind, and restore balance."

Aroma therapy is one of many other wholistic treatments that Tony & Tina are working with, along with their most challenging new concept yet—a time machine. Watch future *News Scopes* for the latest developments of Tony & Tina's product and ideology.



B & B & K for Sale!

Have you ever dreamed of owning a Bed and Breakfast Inn? Jan and Bobby Boal got the yen in 1985 as Jan was approaching early retirement from his teaching career. The Veranda has kept them creatively occupied for 13 years as they restored the historic property and established an international reputation. Kaleidoscopes became an intrinsic part of the inn's decor, gift shop and fame. Guests have included major movie stars, congressmen, and more importantly, leading kaleidoscope artists and collectors from all over the world.

Now the Boals are thinking of retiring, and are hoping that whoever takes over will continue the Veranda's kaleidoscope tradition. While the inn is not yet on the open market, they would like to hear from any Brewster members who might want to be Innkeepers.

Price is flexible depending on whether the Veranda is sold totally or partially furnished, with or without kaleidoscopes, an option of two adjacent properties, etc. So, if it fits your dream, this could be your golden opportunity for the future. Anyone interested can contact Jan and Bobby Boal, P.O. Box 177, Senoia, GA 30276-0177

1999 Convention to be held June 4-6 in Maine



The 1999 Brewster Society Convention "Waves of Color" is off to a billowing start. The Shawmut Ocean Resort in Kennebunkport, Maine has been astounded at the unprecedented number of reservations already made for the first weekend of June, 1999. The minute the announcement was made regarding next year's convention, excited members made a rush for the phone, and there are no rooms remaining at our headquarters hotel! Our group will take over the entire oceanfront facility, as well as accommodations in nearby hotels. You can phone the Shawmut (800-876-3931) and they will locate you elsewhere, or phone the Rhumb Line Motor Lodge (800-337-4862) weekend rates \$95 week nights, \$79. You may also call the Chamber of Commerce directly at 1-800-982-4421 (e-mail: kkcc@maine.org). They can help steer you to B & Bs or motels in the area.

We will take a cue from the relaxed and casual seaside setting for a relaxed and casual convention. Our banquet will be replaced with a lobster roast, and activities will be scaled back to allow for more scope-viewing and shared-time together. The convention committee would love to receive suggestions for the programs and workshops you most desire. Better write your requests now because plans are definitely underway!

Kennebunkport is 26 miles (40 minutes) from the Portland International Airport and 90 miles/minutes from downtown Boston and Boston Logan Airport. Less than 8 easy miles off the Maine Turnpike.



Scoops on Unveiled Scopes

(continued from page 1)

Another "link" to the season was "putt" upon us by **Debra Davis**. "Tee Time" is a stained glass golf bag complete with five different kaleido-clubs, each with its own optical system and effect (see photo on page 5). This may be the only set of clubs on earth that I can pick up, enjoy, and not be tempted to throw into a water hazard. Retail price. \$600.

What would summer be without pyrotechnics? With this in mind, a group of artists/inventors/investors including **Jake Wong, Peggy and Steve Kittelson, Margaret & Mark Eilrich, and Jim Hirsch** unveiled their "Fireworks Kaleidoscope."™

This modernistic hand-held scope employs the synchronization of light and sound to simulate a real life fireworks show. A two-



"Oh Wow" Award winner Jacob Wong (foreground, holding scope) flanked by (l. to r.): Jim Hirsch, Margaret & Mark Eilrich, and Peggy & Steve Kittelson.



"Fireworks Kaleidoscope."™

mirror twelve-point arrangement combines with metallic glitter in oil to achieve continuous motion imaging effects. A silicon microchip controls a bright built-in lighting system. Though the price is yet to be determined, all the audible "Oh wows" made it a natural to win the People's Choice Oh Wow Award!

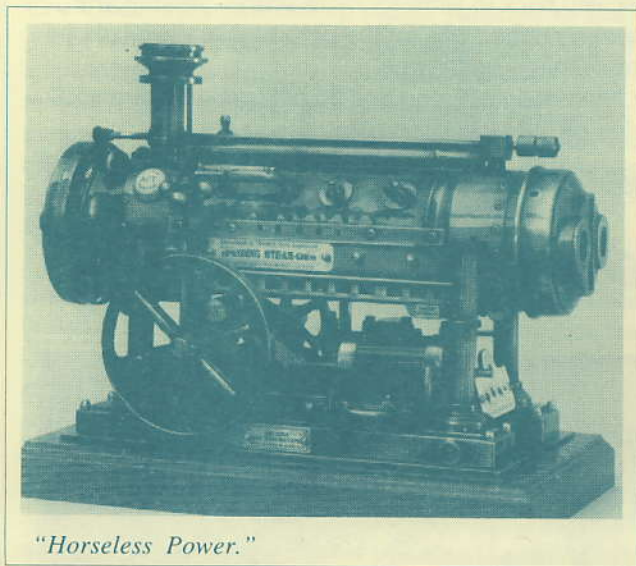
For those not wishing to rush the season, **Dean Krause** offers "Out of the Blue." Reminiscent of lazy summer days, this cloisone and sterling silver miniature offers a two-mirror system with flame worked glass against a backdrop of enameled clouds. Additional clouds adorn the sky blue exterior. An edition of 10, suggested retail is \$1,000.

Some of the most impressive offerings were those of our first time presenters. **Alex Rioux**, age 10, won the

(continued on next page)

People's Choice Rookie Award for his three-mirror oil "Sportascope." Outside and inside are both sports-oriented; retail price is \$48.

Danny Curry unveiled "Jack in the Pulpit," an impressive marriage of sculpture and optics, as well as several other wonderful pieces utilizing found and hand-formed objects. **David and Elena Piper** traveled from Mexico in order to unveil their beautifully crafted wooden scopes, complete with inlaid presentation boxes. Available in two or three-mirror systems, these handheld sets include three interchangeable object cells. Priced around \$700.

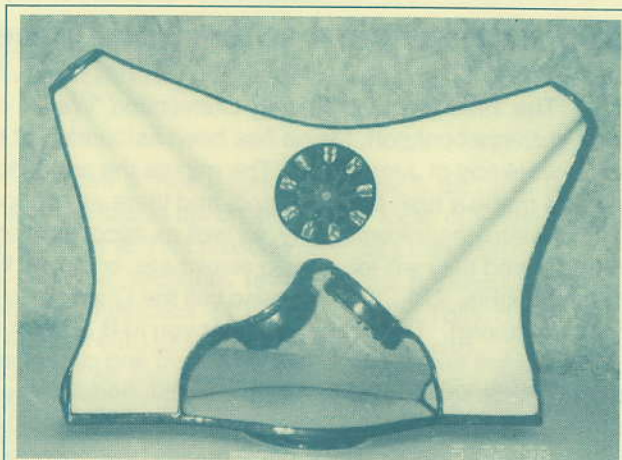


"Horseless Power."

The international flavor continued. **Robert Cook** and **Jocelyn Teh** of Australia arrived with a number of impressive new pieces, most notably, "Horseless Power," an incredible example of sculpture and engineering. This one-of-a-kind piece will soon be on view at Catskill Corners.

Toshiro Sumi of Japan also offered high tech machined exteriors, made of aluminum and brass. These precise two and three-mirror scopes employed gears, gadgets and glycerin in a sleek kinetic package. **Robyn and Andrew Leary** made the trek from New Zealand and launched "Kaleidoship Earth," a one-of-a-kind version of their earlier bubblescope series.

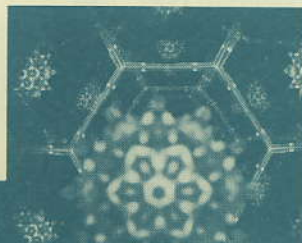
To everyone's delight, **Randy and Shelley Knapp** have returned to their roots. Literally. "Turning Point" is a modernistic sculptural parlor scope that highlights the skills of both members of the artistic twosome. Randy's woodwork is the home for Shelley's lucinis, stringerines and other flameworked fantasies. An edition of 25, \$2,650.



Charles Karadimos' "Take Two."

Charles Karadimos is forever finding inventive ways of packaging his own particular brand of optical perfection. "Take Two" allows viewers to marvel at not one but two precise two mirror scopes in one fluid presentation. Adorned with beautiful slumped glass mandalas, the edition is 25 pieces. Price ranges from \$1,400 - 1,800.

Mark Tickle crossed the "pond" from England with two lovely new additions. The first, his bride of only two weeks, Susan, helped unveil the second, "Fibonacci." Named for a 13th century Italian mathematician, this multi-image marvel will be heading back to the Old World with the Peoples Choice award for best interior image in tow. Difficult to aptly describe, this hand-painted



kaleidosculpture contains oils and lamp-worked glass. Limited to 25, \$1,600.

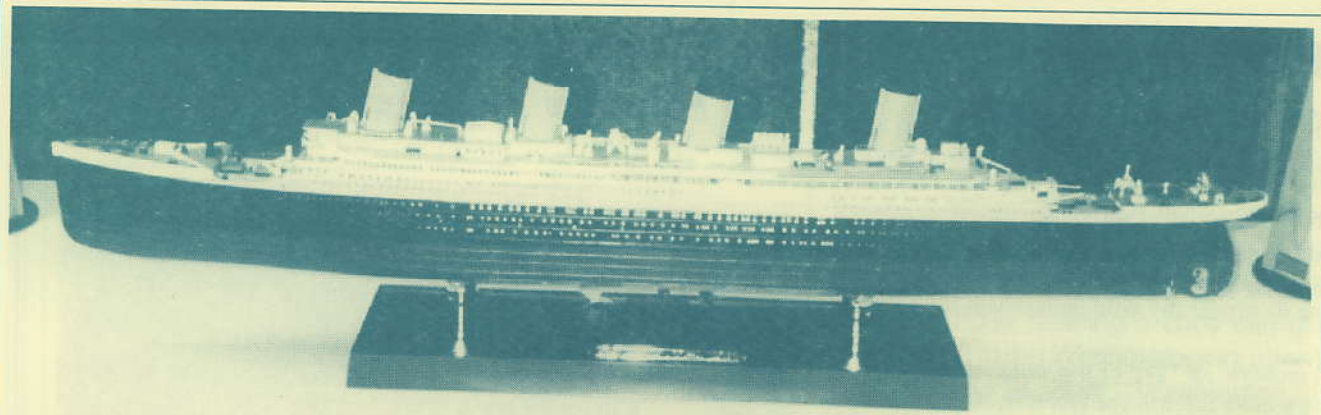
There were more than 30 new scopes officially unveiled, and many others introduced to most of us for the very first time. After four very long and very wonderful days, I left the convention with the feeling that

I never got to see all that was on display. The talent and creativity that existed under one ceiling was almost overwhelming. Obviously, space has limited my comments to include but a handful of pieces. Please know that every kaleidoscope on display was welcome and appreciated. With each passing convention, I wonder whether or not there exist new ideas in this community of ours. Thank you to all of you. You never let us down.



Marc & Susan Tickle hold their award-winning "Fibonacci." (interior image in inset).

Editor's Note: David Meelheim is a collector and retailer who operates a mail-order catalogue of kaleidoscopes, "Stardust," 1-800-272-6731



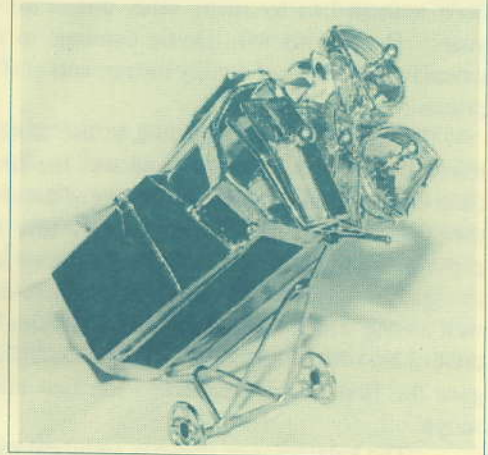
Three of "Titanic's" smokestacks are actually scopes! (by David Kalish)



Danny Curry's
"Jack-in-the-
Pulpit."



Alex Rioux, winner of "Rookie"
Award.



Debra Davis' "Tee Time."



Happy masqueraders—Guess Who??!!



"KaleidoMan & KaleidoWoman"
—Cru & Lisa Chase

In Retrospect

Doug and Dottie Johnson

"My first scope was a Doug Johnson" is a statement I hear often—and I can relate—because a small "Windseye" two-wheel, mirrored, right-angle isosceles triangle, heavily soldered with copper, was the very first scope to trigger my wild enthusiasm for kaleidoscopes.

"Windseye" or "eye of the wind" is the angle at which the wind's force is the greatest. Doug Johnson chose this name for his scopes because it so aptly describes his endeavors in glass as well as business. Doug was not only a pioneer in the kaleidoscope renaissance, he is an innovative designer. He was the first to introduce many of the styles and concepts that have been embellished by many other artists through the years. He and his wife Dottie continue to make an extensive inventory of quality instruments at affordable prices.

Doug was among the first to use front surface mirrors in all of his designs, and was the first to use clear and beveled glass for the bodies of the scope. He then designed and developed the kevel (his own term for his copyrighted glass object cases). Doug also introduced interchangeable kevels and wheels, and double combinations, as well as one which could be opened, enabling "each person to control his own kaleidoscope experience." To his credit also goes the first marble scope and the first binocular kaleidoscope.

"The kaleidoscope presents an image which is generally circular, or 'mandala-ish.' When I realized that Jung has stated that the mandala was the form taken by the unconscious to express its contents to the world, my involvement in the kaleidoscope world was a given. Not just for me is this a value—mandala images are calming, refreshing, and being entirely nonverbal, are not reminders of other tasks, ideas, or associations. Hence, they allow everyone to find in a dynamic way the colors, patterns, moods, and images which are most pleasing to them—in a way producing beautiful works that are most expressive of their inner desires and wishes."

Today Doug and Dottie play at finding what else works, and how to do it better, and more interestingly, "so that the world has more toys, and hence more playfulness, and more joy!"



Doug & Dottie Johnson

Lighthouse Improvement— Another Brewster Contribution



Large Fresnel lens at the St. Michael's Maritime Museum in Maryland.

Brewster's ability to invent devices of practical utility was again evident in his efforts for the improvement of lighthouses along the coasts of Britain. Most of the early lighthouses utilized tallow candles as the source of illumination, and wood fires persisted in some locations until the middle of the 18th century. The next improvement was the argand lamp which burned oil by means of a circular wick protected by a glass chimney with a central draft.

Early in his optical career, Brewster had worked on designing large lenses, and published in 1812, a method of building up a lens of four feet diameter by means of several separate pieces of glass (the polyzonal lens). He also devised a method of utilizing much more of the light emitted by the argand burner (or any other source) in a forward direction beam, by means of lenses in combination with plane and spherical mirrors surrounding the source.

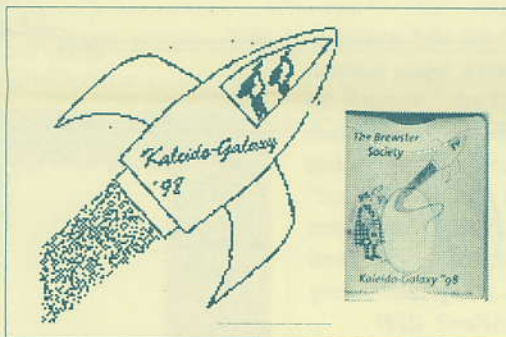
The French engineer, A. Fresnel, has been erroneously credited with first inventing the compound lens, now termed the Fresnel lens, because he was the first to use the lens in a practical application. Fresnel used a somewhat similar device in a lighthouse in 1822, but apparently had not known of Brewster's invention of the lens eleven years previously. But there was never much doubt about the inventor of the holophote apparatus. It was David Brewster. An unpublished report in 1859 by T. Stevenson, entitled "Lighthouse Illumination" gives Brewster complete credit for the holophote (whole light).

Dear Cozy,

Kaleido-Galaxy '98 !! Whew! Let me catch my breath. To be honest, after being kicked out of the Science Club (it was really just a minor explosion) I've never been much on joining groups. They say you can't choose your family, (so I guess you're stuck with me), but I couldn't have chosen a better one anyway. What a beautiful family you are!

A feeling of deep gratitude continues to overwhelm me. For everyone who expressed interest and enthusiasm about my scopes, thank you! My anxieties were melted by your warmth. Not to mention the generosity with technical information that I thought must be among the most guarded secrets on earth, but it was given freely with a smile, a handshake, and a pat on the back! Amazing! I look forward to the years to come, when I will have the opportunity to help some other rookie feel the kindness you folks have shown me. So I'll see you all next year in Maine, if not sooner. Until then, shine on!

Danny Curry
Franklin, Ohio



A few 10th convention Kaleido-Galaxy scopes, with flat flashlight are available: \$25 includes shipping. Phone or write The Brewster Society.

Dear Cozy,

The Brewster Society convention was great! During the Show & Tell portion of the collectors' meeting, I shared Steve Bland's "Chartres" kaleidoscope (which represents the rose window of that French cathedral, complete with a tracery of the window). Several people asked me where they could get one, but I didn't know that answer. Would you please tell them how they can get one - the price is unbelievably under \$75 and the image is truly beautiful.

Ann Franklin
Beulah, MI

Editor's note: I ordered one myself and Ann is right—it is a gem. Ask for it at your favorite scope shop—Steve's trade name is "Aseity"—or call the Brewster Society for his online address.

Media Beat

Brewster Members Turn Passion to Prose

An excellent in-depth article, by Bill Novak, on kaleidoscopes and our Brewster Society, appeared in the June issue of *Washingtonian Magazine*. Those desiring a copy can mail a check for \$5.50 to the *Washingtonian*, attention: Library, 1828 L St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Also, be on the lookout for an article on kaleidoscopes by another Brewster member, Georgia Dzurica, in the September issue of *House & Garden*.

Dear Cozy,

My cheeks hurt from smiling so much at the convention. And I'm still smiling as I show my four new scopes to friends and recount the weekend to them. The flashlight and Kaleido-Galaxy scope, Kaleido wine bottle labels, new scopes seen, designers I met whose work I have been collecting since 1970s, the Crystalume performance, and Marlin's light show - and, and, and.....Thank you for making my first national/international kaleidoscope convention so wonder-filled. You are in my heart.

Phyllis Greenspan
Houston, TX

Dear Cozy,

I have just returned home after attending my fifth convention. It truly is amazing how year after year you and your committee manage to provide all of us with great accommodations, good and fascinating food, demonstrations, programs and open forums. As an artist, I especially appreciated the large tables we were so lucky to have this year in the sales room. A big thank you to each member of the committee for all the hard work and energy that was put into making a wonderful kaleidoscopic weekend for us all.

Dore Wilhoite
Redondo Beach, CA

—Reminder—

The Cozy Scope Salon, a House/Museum for Brewster Society Members: by appointment only. Call 301-365-1855

Calendar of Kaleidoscope Events

- Now-Sept 27* "Edge to Edge" Studio Art Quilts (including two quilts from Paula Nadelstern's Kaleidoscope Quilts series) American Folk Arts Gallery, Columbus Ave. between 65th and 66th (across from the Lincoln Center, 212-977-7170).
- July 19* Kay Winkler will teach a kaleidoscope class, followed by a reception at Quarters, 114 E. Main St., Harbor Springs, MI (616-526-1122).
- July 19-24* John Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC—Kaleidoscope Skills Week with R. Scott Cole (800-365-5724)
- Aug 7- Sept 7* 1998 National Kaleidoscope Exhibit "Garden Reflections" Davlins at Southdale, Edina, MN. Featured artists: Luc & Sallie Durette. Opening reception, Friday, Aug. 7 at 5:00 pm. Stained glass kaleidoscope classes with Kay Winkler, and anodized aluminum scopemaking classes with Don Ballwey and Jeff Wear. For more information, call 888-838-4067 or visit their Website at www.kaleido.com —Email: Kaleido@kaleido.com
- Aug 15-17* R. Scott Cole teaches kaleidoscope classes at the Peninsula Art Center, Fish Creek, WI (920-868-3455). For an updated schedule of Scott's classes, call 704-568-4976.
- Sept 25-27* Second Annual Kaleidoscope Show at Arts Afire, 112 N. Royal St. Alexandria, VA (703-838-9785) Guest Artists: Sherry Moser, Peggy Kittelson, Wiley Jobe; Receptions: Friday 4 - 8; Saturday 3 - 8; and Sunday 1 - 5.

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