

# THE FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Newsletter



March 2022

LYNDEBOROUGH GLASS COMPANY

## LYNDEBOROUGH GLASS -



A neighboring town to Frankestown, Lyndeborough, was noted for its glass factory and its trademark green bottles. Below is such a bottle with the iconic base mark L.G. Co.



This month we have an article by a longtime resident of this area and Frankestown Town Historian, Priscilla Martin. Priscilla has family ties to Lyndeborough, the old Lyndeborough Glass Factory and shares some recollections with us. The article is on pages 4 through 7; enjoy!

This article makes mention of Millefiori glass and having no idea what that was a little research was done (you know I couldn't leave that alone) and a short description can be found on page #8.

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## LAST MONTH'S WHAT'Z IT -

The February What'z It's are probably better known to many as a wood plane used for shaping and smoothing wood. However these two are designed for specialized tasks and would commonly be found on the workbenches of furniture makers and wheelwrights.



WHEELWRIGHT'S SPOKE ROUNDING PLANE



CHAIRMAKERS ROUNDING PLANE

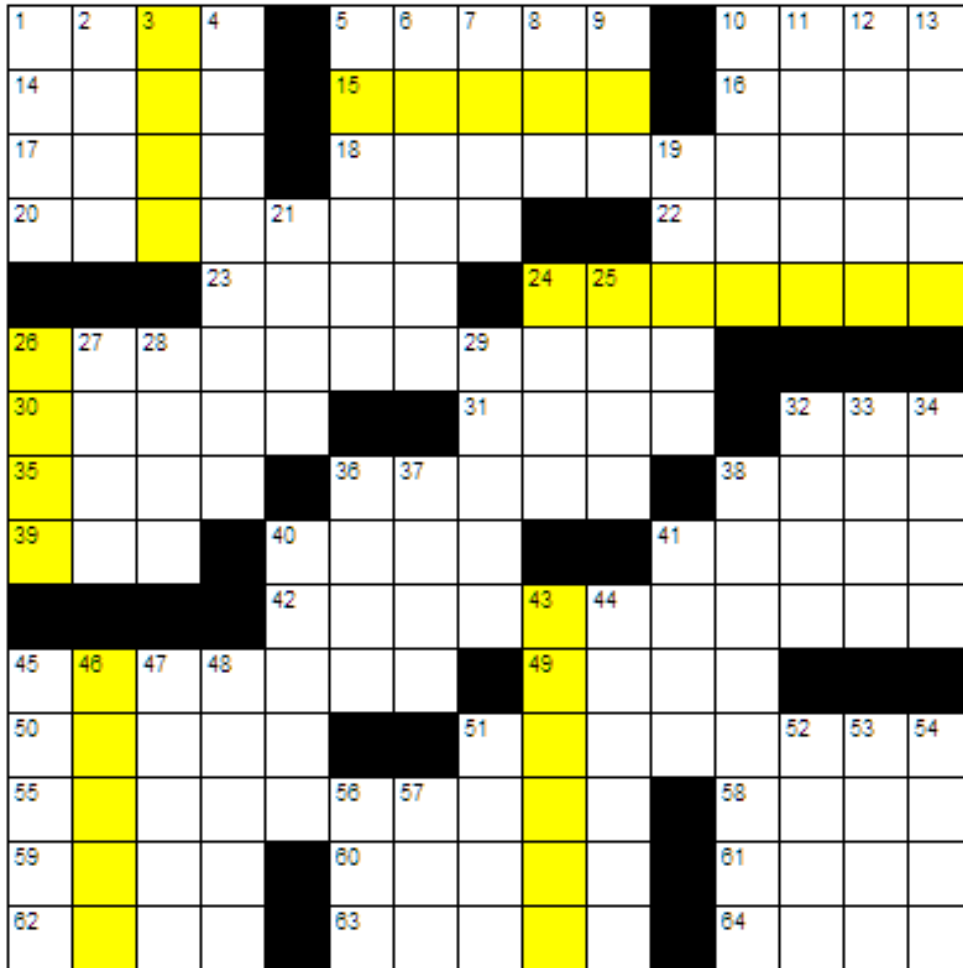
These are both "rounding planes". Essential for wheelwrights when forming the ends of the spokes that had to fit into the wheel felloes. Also essential for furniture makers when smoothing the spindles, rungs and other such parts on chairs and other types of furniture.



(2)

# MARCH THEME CROSSWORD

The **yellow** blocks contain the theme words and all come from the text of this newsletter. The clues that are in all capital letters are the theme word clues. All the theme words appear in the text of this newsletter. Enjoy!



ANSWERS ON PAGE #8

(3)

**Across**

1. Creep (along)
5. Business topic
10. Unwilling to do
14. Came down
15. LENS
16. Bounce back, in a way
17. Desire
18. Door plaques denoting occupant
20. Plane plunge
22. Abstract genre of art
23. Miles per hour, e.g.
24. GLASS CONTAINERS
26. Person doing the same as you
30. Acquiesce
31. A chorus voice
32. "Monty Python" ailer
35. "Cool!"
36. Challenges
38. Broad valley
39. Moray, e.g.
40. Make, as a putt
41. Farm feed holders
42. Abstract theory
45. Tasty morsels
49. Air bag?
50. Condescending one
51. Insulin producing gland
55. Assailing
58. The "A" of ABM
59. "Capital of Italy
60. More fitting
61. Home for chickens
62. Antares, for one
63. Bloated
64. "Desire Under the \_\_\_\_"

**Down**

1. Stooge
2. Assortment
3. SMOOCH
4. Connection that forms a LAN
5. Set aflame
6. Slave ship
7. "\_\_\_\_ here"
8. "What's the \_\_\_\_?"
9. Sixth sense, for short
10. Bounded
11. Base 8 system
12. "So \_\_\_\_!"
13. Legions
19. Kind of ticket
21. Anniversary, e.g.
24. Bundle
25. Food bits
26. FORM OF MILLEFIORI
27. S-shaped molding
28. Russian river
29. Winter wear
32. "\_\_\_\_ Ha'i"
33. Alliance
34. Scottish tax
36. Losing proposition?
37. Aardvark fare
38. Loss of reputation
40. Strike a firm blow
41. Harmony
43. SMOOTHING TOOLS
44. Feeling need for food
45. Autocrats
46. BULLION UNITS
47. Ism
48. Drilling tool
51. Absolute worst
52. Chemical compound
53. Bit of physics
54. Doesn't guzzle
56. Droop
57. Mineral spring

## A DIFFERENT LYNDEBOROUGH GLASS STORY

by PRISCILLA PUTNAM MARTIN

We can all go online and search “Lyndeborough Glass”. I encourage you to do so. You will find countless pictures and factory information. Other references appear at the end of this story. Below are some of my personal recollections.

Mabel (Stevens) Pratt of Francestown told me the story of her going to the Lyndeborough Glass Factory when she was young, but I think she may have meant the office which would have been the only remaining building (a part of Bill and Barbara Leavitt’s house on Glass Factory Road included the remains of the office – a new home is there now). She also had two small straight glass rods that had beautiful designs that could be seen at the ends. These were known as Millefiori Glass and the workers called them “Whimsy’s”.

I introduced Barbie Boisvert of Lyndeborough to Mabel so that Mabel could tell her the story and show Barbie her glass. Barbie had been working for many years on tracking down and photographing as many examples of Lyndeborough Glass as she could find. She had hoped to write a history. Unfortunately there was a fire at her home so all her research was lost.

I worked for Sarah C. (Richards) (Colon) Armstrong (1901-1990). Sarah was the daughter of Fred Richards (1852-1943) the adopted son of Pascal and Helen Richards.<sup>①</sup> Sarah Colon Armstrong had in her possession the remaining papers from the Lyndeborough Glass Factory. When Sarah could no longer live alone she moved to live with her daughter, Carmen Colon Follet (1927-2013) in Niantic, Connecticut <sup>②</sup>. These papers went with her. Sarah also had an impressive collection of Peter Clark Pottery. One day while I was working for Sarah, a representative of the Currier Museum in Manchester, NH came to her home on Locust Lane in Lyndeborough to pick up this collection so it could be displayed in the museum. This collection also later went to Niantic with Sarah.

I should note here that the quartz used to make the Lyndeborough Glass was mined a stone’s throw from Sarah’s home. The mine was still in operation when I went to high school in Wilton. Betsy Shaw and I went up to the mine and looked over the edge (no one was supposed to go there).



LYNDEBOROUGH GLASS- CONTINUED FROM PAGE # 4

When I owned the Roy N. Putnam house in So. Lyndeborough we purchased a truck load of crushed quartz to spread in the driveway. Others used the quartz to dress up their decorative gardens.

Back in the days when I was looking for old bottles, I found many including a brown whiskey flask marked LGCo. Just this Summer I found an intact Bunker Hill Pickle Jar in my garden in Francestown. It is the distinctive aqua color associated with Lyndeborough Glass. The faceted bead with the ring was found in a garden on Glass Factory Road in Lyndeborough.



BUNKER HILL PICKLE JAR



FACETED BROWN LYNDEBOROUGH GLSS

My in-laws lived on Glass Factory Road. We dug up many artifacts that had been thrown away. Below are photos of glass ingots, pieces fallen from blow pipes and chunks of glass.



(6)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE # 5



All the photos of glass are in the collections of Rebecca Ayers Pellerin, Heather Ayers and Priscilla Putnam Martin.

CONTINUED ON PAGE # 7



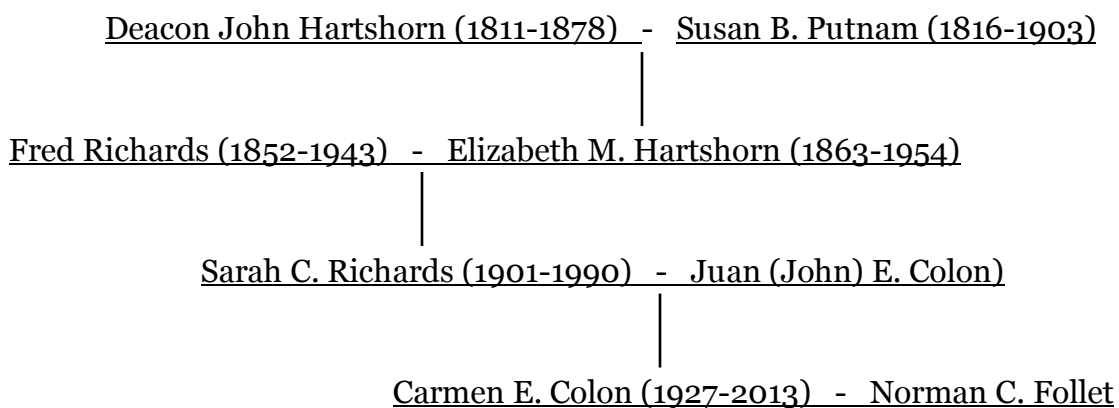
CONTINUED FROM PAGE #6

If you decide to look for Lyndeborough Glass, please obtain permission from the landowners. A final word of caution – when looking for Lyndeborough Glass beware of lots of poison ivy.

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GENEALOGICAL REFERENCES:

- ① - Fred Richards was married to Elizabeth M. Hartshorn (1863-1954). Elizabeth was the daughter of Deacon John Hartshorn (1811-1878) and his wife Susanna B. Putnam (1816-1903) of Lyndeborough.
- ② - Fred and Elizabeth's daughter Sarah married Juan (John) Colon and they had a daughter Carmen E. Colon (1927-2013). Carmen Colon married Norman C. Follet and they lived in Niantic, Connecticut.



REFERENCES:

- Lyndeborough Historical Society % Stephanie Roper. 35 Brandy Brook Road, Lyndeborough, NH 03082
- "The History of Lyndeborough, N.H. 1735-1905" by Rev. D. Donovan and Jacob Woodward pages 460 and 461
- Genealogies and the History of Lyndeborough, N.H. 1905-1955 by the Town of Lyndeborough

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A final note. The Heritage Museum is grateful to Priscilla for sharing her memories of what was an important part of the ancestry of the Town of Lyndeborough. We would also refer you to the December 2020 edition of the Frankestown Heritage Museum Newsletter and its article on Peter Clark's Earthenware Company that was located in both Lyndeborough and Frankestown. The Museum also has on display various Lyndeborough Glass bottles. Ω

CONTINUED FROM PAGE # 1

### MILLEFIORI GLASS -

So just what is Millefiori Glass?

Millefiori means “a thousand flowers” and is the name given to the type of glass filled with floral designs.

The process for making this much sought after glass begins with threads of colored glass being bundled and fired in the glass furnace to form glass rods or canes made up of these threads of now molten glass in a wide variety of colors. These many spots of color form patterns in the glass that may resemble tiny flowers; hence the name Millefiori. Once the glass rod cools it can be sliced into small disks so that the pattern shows through in each disk.



They do not always cut the rod into small disks, rather selling the rods intact as what is known as canes.

This process be can used to make more than canes or disks for jewelry. It is also used in the making of paper weights, Christmas tree ornaments, sculpture, and other items. Ω



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

The October issue of the Heritage Museum Newsletter continues to elicit comments. This comment comes to us from Silicon Valley where a retired school teacher had occasion to show the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Test to her caregiver. This thought provoking comment is reprinted here by permission. There is some paraphrasing to remove specific names and locations:

“ . . . the 8th grade passing test is something I would like to take to 21st century School Boards and parents to show what education our founding children got, the very ones who developed our wonderful country. For the first time I envy you away in far New Hampshire dwelling on our past instead of being surrounded by impossibilities here in Silicon Valley.

. . . . my Visiting Angels caregiver . . . . was born here. When she was in high school she had to care for her dying mother, so later she studied for her diploma at probably what became a junior college. She carefully looked through the test, and for the most part had no clue what most of the questions were all about. Well, I couldn't answer all of them either, but I knew what the questions were talking about! Anyway, she didn't learn even what you and I did in schools, at least not in California. Ω

### MARCH PUZZLE SOLUTION

|    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | P | 2  | O | 3  | K | 4  | E | 5  | I | 6  | S | 7  | S | 8  | U | 9  | E | 10 | L | 11 | O | 12 | H |
| 14 | A | 15 | L | 16 | I | 17 | T | 18 | G | 19 | L | 20 | A | 21 | S | 22 | S | 23 | E | 24 | C | 25 | H |
| 17 | W | 18 | I | 19 | S | 20 | H | 21 | N | 22 | A | 23 | M | 24 | E | 25 | P | 26 | L | 27 | A | 28 | T |
| 20 | N | 21 | O | 22 | S | 23 | E | 24 | D | 25 | I | 26 | V | 27 | E | 28 | O | 29 | P | 30 | A | 31 | R |
| 26 | C | 27 | O | 28 | U | 29 | N | 30 | T | 31 | E | 32 | R | 33 | A | 34 | P | 35 | A | 36 | R | 37 | T |
| 30 | A | 31 | G | 32 | R | 33 | E | 34 | E | 35 | A | 36 | L | 37 | T | 38 | O | 39 | B | 40 | B | 41 | C |
| 32 | N | 33 | E | 34 | A | 35 | T | 36 | D | 37 | A | 38 | R | 39 | E | 40 | S | 41 | D | 42 | A | 43 | L |
| 38 | E | 39 | L | 40 | E | 41 | L | 42 | K | 43 | I | 44 | N | 45 | K | 46 | S | 47 | I | 48 | L | 49 | O |
| 42 | M | 43 | E | 44 | T | 45 | A | 46 | P | 47 | H | 48 | Y | 49 | S | 50 | I | 51 | C | 52 | S | 53 |   |
| 46 | T | 47 | I | 48 | D | 49 | B | 50 | I | 51 | L | 52 | N | 53 | L | 54 | G | 55 | S | 56 | U | 57 |   |
| 50 | S | 51 | N | 52 | O | 53 | O | 54 | T | 55 | P | 56 | A | 57 | N | 58 | C | 59 | R | 60 | E | 61 |   |
| 56 | A | 57 | G | 58 | R | 59 | E | 60 | S | 61 | S | 62 | I | 63 | N | 64 | A | 65 | I | 66 | T | 67 |   |
| 59 | R | 60 | O | 61 | M | 62 | E | 63 | P | 64 | T | 65 | E | 66 | R | 67 | C | 68 | O | 69 | O | P  |   |
| 62 | S | 63 | T | 64 | A | 65 | R | 66 | G | 67 | S | 68 | S | 69 | Y | 70 | E | 71 | L | 72 | M | 73 |   |