



IT'S CONVENTION TIME AGAIN!!!

Open Salt Collectors (OSC) is excited to be hosting the
18th National Open Salt Convention (NOSC),
May 16-18, 2024 at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel,
1160 Thorn Run Road, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108.

This packet from the 18th NOSC Committee contains the following:

- **Registration Form**—The deadline for returning the completed form with deposit should be postmarked no later than **March 15, 2024**
- **Hotel Information**—Instructions for making your hotel reservations at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel
- **Convention Salt**—Information about the convention salt and how to order it
- **Raffle Salts**—Information about the **THREE** extraordinary salts being offered and how to purchase tickets for a chance to win
- **Buy & Sell**— if you are plan to sell salts remember to tell us how much space you will need on the registration form
- **Auction**—Explanation of the auction procedure
- **Display Information**—Explanation of displays and the categories for judging
- **Speakers**—The listing of speakers and breakout session speakers and topics
- **Tour of the Senator John Heinz History Center**
- **OPTIONAL TOUR — Pittsburgh City Tour (Thursday afternoon)**
- **Everything Else**—Tenderfoot Orientation, Door Prizes (new format), Throw-down Baskets, Hospitality Room, etc.
- **Restaurants near the Sheraton**
- **Things to Do in the Pittsburgh Area**

Please read all information carefully and make note of the following deadlines:

- **February 15, 2024**—Return your **convention salt order form** by this date; late orders can not be accepted. This convention salt will be made in a limited number based on the number pre-ordered!
- **March 15, 2024**—Date your **registration form** and **deposit** must be postmarked to be registered.
- **April 1, 2024**—Auction items photos to Al Diamond to be included in the Auction catalog
- **April 15, 2024**—**Final Deadline Payment due** for **balance of OSC registration** (If only the deposit was paid by March 15, 2024.)
- **April 15, 2024**—Return your order form for your **raffle tickets**.
- **April 30, 2024**—Absentee bid(s) in to Sherry Diamond
- **May 1, 2024**—Registration fee nonrefundable on or after this date
- **May 2, 2024**—Deadline for the hotel special rate

For convention updates, other information and an electronic version of this packet go to:

<http://www.opensalts.info>



REGISTRATION FORM

18th National Open Salt Convention

May 16-18, 2024

Please print LEGIBLY and complete all information on the Registration Form below.

Name _____ Nickname for Badge _____

Name _____ Nickname for Badge _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+ 4 _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Number of people attending _____ x \$100 Deposit OR **\$295** Full = \$ _____ Total Enclosed

Payment Due Dates: \$100/person deposit due **March 15, 2024**, balance of **\$195** due by **April 15, 2024**.

- I/We am/are registered for a Room at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel for (Circle all that apply):

Thursday, 5/16 Friday, 5/17 Saturday, 5/18

- Is this your first time at a National Open Salt Convention? _____

- I/We will need space for Buy & Sell Full Table _____ (8 ft) Half Table _____ (4 ft)

- I/We will need space for a Display (limited to **36" deep x 24" wide**) YES NO

- I/We plan to attend the tour of the Senator John Heinz History Center on Friday.

Number of attendees _____

- I/We plan to go on the Pittsburgh City Optional Trip on Thursday afternoon _____

- Saturday Dinner options:

_____ Chicken Picatta *Boneless chicken breast sauteed with lemon caper sauce*

_____ Norwegian Salmon *Lightly seared & baked salmon filet seasoned with herbes de Provence and in a balsamic reduction.*

_____ Pork Tenderloin *Slow roasted and sliced served with creamy apple cider sauce*

- Describe any special dietary needs. _____

- Breakout Session sign up:

Choose two: English Imari _____ Heisey Salts _____ Silver marks _____

Registration fee non-refundable after May 1, 2024

Please make check payable to **OSC** and mail with completed registration form to:

18th NOSC 2024 ▲ George & Constance Kullgren ▲ 711 Norfield Court▲ Westminster, MD 21158

Questions? Contact George & Connie—Phone: 410-371-8172 or Email: gckullgren@comcast.net



HOTEL INFORMATION

Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel

1160 Thorn Run Road

Coraopolis, PA 15108

Telephone #412-262-2400

The 18th NOSC will be held at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel in Coraopolis, PA.
The hotel is located 7.6 miles from the Pittsburgh Airport (PIT).



Pets are allowed but please check the pet policy on the hotel's website for information and fees.
The hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the airport.

The service is available only from 4am to 11am and from 4pm to 11pm.

Reservations:

A block of rooms has been set aside under at the special rate of **\$135.00 plus taxes and fees per night**. This rate only applies if staying Thursday thru Saturday nights. The contracted rates are available three **(3) days pre/post** and must be reserved at the time the original reservation is made. To receive this special rate, you **must** mention the group name "**National Open Salt Convention**" when making reservations. **The final deadline for hotel reservations at this special rate is Thursday, May 2, 2024.**

Link to: [Book your group rate for National Open Salt Convention](#)

All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. The hotel will not hold any reservations unless secured. Hotel check-in time begins at 3:00 pm and hotel check-out time is no later than 12 noon. **If you decide to cancel your hotel reservation, you must do so at least 48 hours in advance of your scheduled arrival date to avoid incurring charges.** For the free shuttle service from the airport, call the hotel from the Baggage Claim area at Door #8 (412-262-2400)

PLEASE NOTE

**Hotel charges are NOT included in the convention registration fee.
You must make your own hotel reservations and pay the hotel directly.**



CONVENTION SALT

The 18th NOSC Salt



The Convention salt is a pedestal salt with a black-rimmed, controlled-bubble amber bowl and clear foot. It measures approximately 2 3/4" in diameter and 1 3/4" in height. Measurements may vary slightly as each is individually blown. This salt was made by Pieper Glass of Burnsville, North Carolina.

Glassblower Kenny Pieper is a full time studio artist who lives in the mountains of North Carolina. He has been blowing glass since 1976. Kenny received training from Penland School of Crafts (Penland, NC), Center for Creative Studies and College of Art and Design (Detroit, MI) and he earned a BFA from California College of the Arts (Oakland, CA).

He has exhibited internationally and he is featured in the permanent collections of the Corning Glass Museum (Corning, NY), the Asheville Art Museum, (NC), Hickory Museum of Art (NC), and the New Orleans Museum of Art (LA) as well as in numerous private collections.

— cut here —

ORDER FORM FOR 18th NOSC SALT

Remember, the deadline for ordering is February 15, 2024.

Return this completed form as soon as possible postmarked no later than **February 15, 2024**, with check or money order made payable to **OSC**. Send to: **Lesley Solkoske, 81 Mattabasset Drive, Meriden, CT 06450**.

If you have any questions, please contact Lesley by email at lgsolkoske@cox.net or by phone at 1-(203) 440-3686.

The 18th NOSC Salt is priced at **\$75.00**. If you cannot pick up your salt(s) at the Convention, please add **\$11.00** for priority shipping and insurance **for each salt purchased**. The salts will be mailed after the convention.

I will attend the 18th NOSC and pick up my salt(s). I enclose \$_____ (\$75.00 each) for _____ salt(s).

I will not attend the 18th NOSC. Please mail my salt(s). **I enclose \$_____ (\$86.00.00 for each salt purchased. This includes domestic Priority shipping and insurance) for _____ salt (Please email Lesley to obtain the cost for international shipping.)**

Total enclosed \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ Email _____



18th NOSC SALT RAFFLE



This exquisite double salt with cobalt liners was made by Victor Boivin, Paris, circa 1897. It is punched with the French Boar Head indicating 80% Silver



This cobalt lacy salt can be found in Neal, #OL 20a. Neal attributes its origin to the Pittsburg area.



This Flora Danica made by Royal Copenhagen features the Cardamine Faeroeensis Horn pattern. It is a show stopper!

Tickets are \$10 each or 5 for \$40.

YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN—BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER SO WE CAN CALL YOU TO GIVE YOU THE GOOD NEWS!

Keep this portion for your records - I sent \$ _____ for _____ tickets on _____. Check # _____
Ticket confirmation will be returned to you by email, where possible, or snail mail.
_____ cut here _____

Please return this completed form with your remittance by April 15, 2024.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Do you plan to attend the Convention? (circle one) YES NO NOT SURE

If my ticket is picked, my 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices in this order are (please mark 1, 2 or 3):

_____ French Silver Double _____ Cobalt Lacy _____ Flora Danica

I am purchasing _____ tickets (\$10 each or 5 for \$40 – no limit!) and enclose payment \$ _____
(Your ticket stubs will be returned to you by mail if you are not attending the convention.)

Make check payable to OSC and mail to Karen Ludwig, 18 Merganser Way, Walpole, MA 02081



SALT AUCTION INFORMATION

A highlight of the convention for over 20 years, the **NOSC SALT AUCTION** will again be conducted during the 18th National Open Salt Convention in Pittsburgh. Beautiful and unique salts valued from \$10 to hundreds of dollars and more will be available to ALL salt club members bidding on site or by leaving absentee bids (if they can't attend the convention).

In 2024 we will again hold a **STANDARD AUCTION**. That means that items will start low and will progress until the piece is sold unless bidding does not achieve a minimum required for the item.

Al Diamond will once again be the auctioneer with several members volunteering to assist in the delivery of purchased items. Items purchased will be delivered to the attendee buyers immediately upon the closing of each sale, speeding the process. Payments will be accepted at the end of the auction.

SALE ITEMS AND DONATIONS INVITED!!! HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO PRESENT YOUR SALTS TO A GROUP OF TRULY AVID COLLECTORS.

WE INVITE YOU TO SEND IN PICTURES (.JPEG format, please) to Al (al@agencyconsulting.com) or Sherry (sherry@agencyconsulting.com) of salts you wish to sell (no later than April 1, 2024) with the following information:

1. ***Your name and the description of salt for the catalogue***
2. ***Estimated retail value***
3. ***Minimum acceptable value, if any (under which the salt may not be sold)***
4. ***Is this a Sale Item (15% of price benefits NOSC) or a Donation (100% of the price benefits NOSC) - This is a primary funding source for this and the next NOSC each year.***
5. ***Attach one picture (or more) of the salt in .jpeg format***

Bring your auction salts to the Auction Table at Registration in Pittsburgh.

ABSENTEE BIDS

This year we will again accept Left Bids for all catalogued items. The catalogue will be prepared and available online at the Open Salts website (www.opensalts.info) early in April.

Send your absentee bids to Sherry@agencyconsulting.com. In case of identical bids, BOTH BIDDERS WILL BE INFORMED but the first one received will be honored. Absentee winners may pay by credit card, Paypal or by check. Please allow time for determination of shipping costs and packaging.

CREDIT CARDS:

This year we will again have the capability to accept credit cards as well as cash and checks.

BIDDER QUALIFICATION:

The auction will be open to all convention participants and to all members of any of the US Regional Salt Clubs (NESOSC, OSCAR, CASC, MOSS & OSSTW) and to subscribers to the National Newsletter. All that is required to bid is to join a regional club or to simply register for a electronic subscription to the National Newsletter for \$5 per year or \$20 for 5 years. (See newsletter subscription form in this packet).



DISPLAYS

It's time to put on your creative thinking caps! Bring a convention display and share your creativity with your salty friends. Displays are always a highlight of our conventions!

Display Rules

- There is no set theme so let your imagination run free.
- The size of each display is limited to 36" wide x 24" deep.
- There is no limit to the number of salts you may use.
- A ribbon will be awarded for People's Choice (overall favorite voted by attendees).
- A ribbon will be awarded for the Most Informative display (voted by attendees).
- There will be time set aside for those who have brought displays to give a very brief overview and to answer questions, a total of no more than 3-5 minutes for each display.
- Those bringing displays may choose to distribute handouts if the display is designed to be informative.

17th NOSC Displays





HEINZ HISTORY CENTER TOUR



On Friday afternoon we will be traveling by motor coach to the Senator John Heinz History Center where Anne Madarasz, Director of the Curatorial Division, Chief Historian and Director of the Western PA Sports Museum, will be presenting on the "History of Glass in the Pittsburgh Area." Anne will also be our docent for the guided tour of the history center. Service animals are always welcome. The history center galleries are wheelchair accessible. Several exhibits have videos with closed captioning.

The cost of this tour is included in the registration fee.



OPTIONAL PITTSBURGH TOUR



DUQUESNE INCLINE

Pittsburgh City Tour
Thursday, May 16, 2024,
1pm to 5pm

Cost \$75.00/person

The tour via motor coach includes the following high points of Pittsburgh:

- A ride on the *historic Duquesne Incline* (pictured) with an overview of the city from the overlook platform on “*Mt Washington*”.
- A driving Hometown Hero Tour of our “*Northshore*.”
- A driving tour of the “*Cultural District*” and Downtown.
- A stop at one of the “*Five Shrines of Pittsburgh*” (historic churches) with a presentation from their historian.
- Free time off the bus in the colorful “*Strip District*” neighborhood. The Strip, as it’s called, is a one-half square mile shopping district chock full of ethnic grocers, produce stands, meat markets and sidewalk vendors, it is the perfect stop for a snack.

Limited to 55 people, so it’s first come, first served.

Please print LEGIBLY and complete all information on the Optional Tour Form below.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+ 4 _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Number of people attending _____ x \$75.00 Total Enclosed _____

The cost of this tour is NOT included in the registration fee.
Please mail this form with a separate check, made out to OSC and in the memo line
write in Optional Tour and mail in with your registration form.



FEATURED SPEAKERS

During the opening session, **Nina Robertson and Robin Grube** will be hosting a special welcoming ceremony “Bread and Salt: an Eastern European Tradition.”

Kent Hudson will be speaking on English Imari

The English Imari Style Witches pattern, which has been produced by many different British potteries, is often referred to as the Imari pattern, but it is only one of many Imari style patterns popular for several hundred years. Kent will discuss the origin, the characteristics of the Imari style, and identify some of the potteries, using examples from his collection.

Mary Kern, Linda Houser and Jody Stefl will be presenting on silver marks.

Mary Kern, Linda Houser and Jody Stefl will be presenting an informational session showing where punch marks can be found on silver salts, explaining the difference between a mark and a punch and how and where to find information on marks and punches. Attendees are welcome to bring silver salts they would like identified. Handouts will be distributed.

Maria Martell will be presenting a program on Heisey Salts.

Heisey made glass items from 1896-1957. Many Heisey patterns list open salts in multiple colors and decorations. What Maria thought would be a small collection has mushroomed into a much larger collection. Please come and see some samples of her collection and learn to identify the different Heisey Open Salts.

Anne Madarasz will be the featured speaker at the Senator John Heinz History Center.

The title of her presentation is “From Everyday to Extraordinary: The Story of Pittsburgh Glass.”

Anne Madarasz has been at the Heinz History Center since 1992 and currently holds the title of Director of the Curatorial Division, Chief Historian, and Director of the Western PA Sports Museum. A graduate of Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, she completed the coursework for her Ph.D at the University of Pennsylvania. She served as Project Director and Curator for “Glass: Shattering Notions.” She was awarded a Richards Fellowship for research from the Corning Museum of Glass and lectures and writes frequently about Pittsburgh glass, regional industry, and the history of Pittsburgh sports. Anne serves as the national President of the National American Glass Club, was a founding Board member of the Pittsburgh Glass Center, and served on the board of the Mount Pleasant Glass Museum.

Kathleen Grant M.D.

Dr. Grant, Saturday’s guest speaker who will be presenting on Duncan & Miller Glass, was born in Reading, PA and is a graduate of Reading High School, Albright College in Reading, and Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. She completed a General Surgical Residency at Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh and a Cardiovascular Surgical Residency at UVA in Charlottesville, VA. She was one of the first twenty women to be board certified in Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery.

After retiring from the practice of Cardiovascular Surgery throughout the greater Pittsburgh area, Kathy joined the board of the National Duncan Glass Society which owns and operates the Duncan & Miller Glass Museum (NDGS) in Washington, PA. For the past 10 years she has been the editor of the Journal of the NDGS, a prolific author and speaker on the subject of American Glass production and design from EAPG to mid-century modern, and the curator of displays at the Duncan & Miller Glass Museum.



EVERYTHING ELSE

Tenderfoot Orientation

Are you attending your very first National Open Salt Convention? If so, then plan to attend the Thursday evening Tenderfoot Orientation. This session will enhance your convention experience. First-time attendees will receive a gift bag of salts.

Door Prizes

Door prizes will be provided by the various salt clubs so please **DO NOT BRING A DOOR PRIZE SALT**. Though not everyone will win a door prize, the salts offered will be welcome additions to lucky recipients' collections.

Throw-Down Baskets

You are welcome to bring a Theme Basket of your choice to be raffled off at the Saturday Night Banquet. Tickets will be priced at \$1.00 and will be sold during the cocktail hour at the banquet.

Hospitality Room

The Hospitality Room will be open evenings. Snacks and beverages will be available. **The hotel has a "no alcohol brought-in" policy in public areas.**

Convention Website Address: <http://www.opensalts.info>

The Welcome Mat Is Out

The Planning Committee Members for the 18th National Open Salt Convention encourage any and all of the regional club members, past club members, subscribers to the National Newsletter, Facebook members and anyone else interested in collecting open salts to attend the convention, for an opportunity to meet and reconnect with fellow open salt collectors and to participate in the activities that will include a field trip to the Heinz History Center, informative presentations, Buy & Sell sessions and a live auction.

Thinking Ahead...

Conventions are becoming more costly and the number of attendees is declining so finances are and will continue to be a challenge. Thinking ahead, we should try to help the next convention committee fund the 19th NOSC. One way to do this is to donate salts to help defray expenses. Please bring any donations of open salts to the convention and give them to Lesley Solkoske. All proceeds from the sales will be forwarded to OSC in support of the next convention. Another way to contribute is to enter a salt in the auction. A percentage of the sale price will be donated to OSC. Donations of auction-worthy salts to the auction in which 100% of the proceeds will benefit OSC is yet another way to provide support. Please refer to the auction information page for further details. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated.



RESTAURANTS NEAR THE SHERATON

HOTEL RESTAURANT

Sheraton Café, great for breakfast and dinner, specializes in American Cuisine.

BREAKFAST & TREATS

Eggs n'at, 8556 University Blvd. Coraopolis, PA (0.8 miles from Sheraton)
Vegetarian friendly, gluten free options—Open daily 7am-2pm

Bob Evans, 8405 University Blvd. Coraopolis, PA (0.8 mile from Sheraton)
Open 7am—9pm

Bruegger's Bagels, 1134 Thorn Run Rd. Extension, Coraopolis, PA (0.2 miles from Sheraton)
Open 6am—2pm

Kip's Ice Cream, 1136 Thorn Run Rd, Suite A2, Coraopolis, PA (0.2 miles from Sheraton)
Open daily 12-9pm

Milk Shake Factory, 9898 University Blvd, Suite 80, Moonship Township, PA (1.3 miles from Sheraton)
Open daily 12-10pm

LUNCH & DINNER

Armstrong's Restaurant, 1136 Thorn Run Rd Crossing, Coraopolis, PA (0.4 miles from Sheraton)
Italian, American Mon-Sat 11am—9:30pm, Sun 12-8pm

Casa Amigos Tequila Bar & Grill, 333 Rouser Road Bldg. 4, Coraopolis, PA (0.4 miles from Sheraton)
Mexican Mon-Fri 11am-10pm Sat 11:30am-10pm, Sun 12-9pm

Primanti Brothers, 8651 University Blvd., Moon Township, PA (0.8 miles from Sheraton)
Sandwiches, American Pub Mon-Fri 11am 12am, Sat & Sun 11am to 1am

Four Twelve Project, 988 Brodherd, Coraopolis, PA (2.2 miles from Sheraton)
American, variety—a wine and Dinery—focus on 100% PA wine, beer, and spirits
Reservations recommended Tues–Thurs 4pm –8pm, Fri & Sat 4-9pm, Closed Sunday

Hyeholde Restaurant 1516 Coraopolis Heights Road, Coraopolis, PA (0.4 miles from Sheraton)
Fine dining restaurant \$\$\$\$ Tues-Sat 4:30-9pm, closed Sunday



THINGS TO DO IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA

Pittsburgh Glass Center

5472 Penn Ave.

Pittsburgh, PA 15206

20.7 miles from the Sheraton, approx. 32 minutes

(412) 365-2145 - Located in Pittsburgh East End neighborhood, approx. 4 miles east of the Strip District in downtown Pittsburgh. Has a gallery and demonstrations. Free and open to the public, \$5 donation suggested.

All classes and workshops are pre-registration only. Current hours are:

Tuesday – Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens

1 Schenley Park

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

21 miles from the Sheraton, 30 minutes

(412)622-6914

A green oasis in the middle of Pittsburgh's vibrant Oakland neighborhood

15 acres with a 14-room greenhouse with 23 distinctive gardens. There is Chihuly and other permanent exhibit pieces throughout the gardens. \$21.95 each; \$19.95 seniors, have rotating programs

Frick Art & Historical Center

7227 Reynolds Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15208

24 miles from the Sheraton, 35 minutes

In the Point Breeze neighborhood

((421)371-0600

The Gardens, Permanent collections of the Frick Art Museum, and a section of the Car and Carriage Museum is always free. Admission is charged to the Clayton (the home) and other special exhibits.

Bayernhof Museum

225 St. Charles Place

Pittsburgh, PA 15215

23 miles from the Sheraton 35-40 minutes

19,000 sq. foot mansion has a large collection of antique automatic music boxes and furniture

(412)782-4231 Have to call in advance to book a tour, cost is \$10 cash and is collected at the end of the tour

Tours limited to 12 people

Hours – M- Sat – 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Closed Sunday

The Andy Warhol Museum

17 Sandusky St., Pittsburgh

412-237-8300

\$25.00 adults, \$13 senior, Timed tickets—reserve online

Open: M, W, Th, Sat, Sun 10am to 5pm, Fri 10am to 10pm

OSC National Newsletter Subscription

If you would like to subscribe to our National Newsletter, please follow the instructions below:

Your subscription options are:

_____ Email copy for 2024 only \$ 5
_____ Email copy for 2024 through 2028 \$ 20

Questions?

Please contact Judy Johnson, Treasurer, at auntjudy1990@gmail.com or (585) 752-4385.

To Begin Your OSC Newsletter Subscription

Mark your subscription option above, **complete** the information below and mail this **entire form** with your check payable to **Open Salt Collectors** to:

Judy Johnson
OSC Treasurer
4475 Middle Cheshire Road
Canandaigua NY 14424

Join us on Facebook at
Open Salt Collectors of
the World

Please complete all items and return this entire form so that your contact information will be accurate in our records. Thank you!

Name(s) _____

State Address/Apt. _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____

To which Regional Clubs, if any, do you belong?

CSCA _____ NESOSC _____ OSCAR _____ South Cal: _____

Please be assured your information will not be shared with anyone outside the open salt community.