

The screenshot shows the Fenton Art Glass website interface. At the top left is the Fenton logo with the tagline 'Handcrafted American Glass Artistry' and a photo of people with the text 'Handmade in America since 1905.'. Navigation links include 'home', 'about us', 'contact us', and 'product search'. A central banner promotes 'NEW! Fenton catalog search BROWSE OUR CATALOGS' with instructions to click on catalog covers. Below this is the 'FENTON GIFT FINDER' section, which allows searching by category, shape, color, price, and occasion. A 'FREE EMAIL NEWSLETTER' sign-up area is on the right. A text box on the left contains a message to collectors and customers.

Ken Nicol, Ohio, USA, SG

August 2007

## Fenton Art Glass, Williamstown, West Virginia, nach 100 Jahren geschlossen

Nicol: Fenton Art Glass which has been in operation for over 100 years in Williamsport, West Virginia is officially closing for good. They were the only „old“ surviving glass works we still had in the US. The press release is below.

### Fenton Art Glass Plans for Closure

August 9, 2007

(Williamstown, West Virginia). The Fenton Art Glass Company announced today that it would **cease its operations over the next few months**.

„This decision was difficult,“ company President George W. Fenton said. „Since the announcement in June regarding our efforts toward financial restructuring, we took many steps in our efforts to continue the company's operations and the tradition of glassmaking. Ultimately, those efforts were not successful.“

„After discussions with our largest creditor, we agreed on an orderly plan to wind down our business.“ Fenton said. „We want to pay off as much of our debt as possible before we cease operations altogether, and this plan allows us to do that. We met with our employees today, and **we expect to continue some level of glass production and glass decorating** to fill orders for our products. About 22 employees will be let go immediately,

and there will be others in the coming weeks as we move toward closure.“

„We want to thank those in the local community for their support,“ Fenton said, „and we want to thank our larger customer community across the nation. Most of all, we want to thank all of the current and past employees of Fenton Art Glass who have been part of the Fenton tradition of glassmaking.“

The **Fenton Gift Shop will remain open**, and its management will be exploring ways to continue to offer visitors and tourists the glassmaking experience.

**Founded in 1905**, Fenton Art Glass is known worldwide for its handmade colored art glass. Fenton Art Glass currently employs about **150 people**.

<http://www.fentonartglass.com/>  
August 19, 2007

To Our Valued Collectors and Customers,

We have announced some very difficult news but the **Fenton Website will remain open for business just like our Gift Shop in Williamstown, West Virginia**. We appreciate your business and hope you will visit the website or the Gift Shop in the near future to buy that special gift or collectible.

Thanks for all your support!