

THE LEGACY OF PERCY AND VIVIAN MOORE

In honor of the upcoming Percy and Vivian Moore Weekend, this article will revisit the history of the Percy and Vivian Moore Weekend and the Moores' importance as HCA pioneers.

The Moores were among the HCA members who helped establish the Heisey Glass Museum. In 1991, the HCA board voted unanimously to rename the Annual Souvenir Dinner to honor Percy Moore, who was a longtime HCA member and supporter. In 1996 the board recognized Vivian posthumously.

The event has been hosted by HCA study clubs and occasionally by individual members, as a fundraiser for HCA and a draw to their communities. It has also been held in Newark, Ohio, in conjunction with the Dave Spahr Fall Select Auction. Past PVM hosts have included Seattle, Washington, in 2015, Grapevine, Texas, in 2016, Newark, Ohio, in 2017, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, in 2018, Louisville, Kentucky, in 2019, Newark, Ohio, in 2021, 2022, 2024, and 2025, and again in 2026. It is the perfect opportunity to visit and share your love of Heisey with others from around the nation.

The Moores were avid collectors and museum enthusiasts. Percy and his brother Glenn restored old cars. In the early 1950s, they founded an auto museum where they showcased their auto treasures, as well as a full-sized train locomotive. Percy and Vivian reportedly drove their old roadsters around Newark, and they participated in many parades held in the community. Rifles, pistols, antique music boxes, and of course Heisey were some of the many things collected by Percy and Vivian.

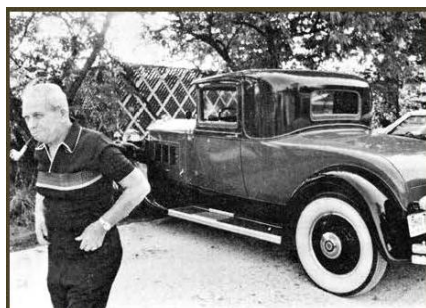
When the Heisey factory closed, Percy purchased the remaining pallets of Heisey inventory. Vivian then sold Heisey from the gift shop located next to their museum. After Glenn's death in the late 1950s, Percy divided their car collection to help provide for Glenn's family, but Percy and Vivian maintained the gift shop until the early 1970s, continuing to sell their robust Heisey inventory.

When the Heisey Glass Museum opened its doors in 1974, the Moores were generous in their donations of Heisey glass to display in the museum. In addition, they supplied the large grinding stones that serve as steps leading into the King House and were built into a retaining wall on the north side of the property. They also served as a lender to help make the King House purchase and relocation possible. Museum visitors from that era have fond memories of Percy serving as a greeter at the museum's front door.

Volunteering hours and donations, Percy and Vivian Moore joined the other members of HCA in providing a home for the Heisey legacy and securing that legacy for future Heisey enthusiasts.

It is not hard to understand why the 1991 HCA Board of Directors made the unanimous decision to pay tribute to these early members of HCA by renaming the Annual Souvenir Dinner in their honor. Their love of Heisey and willingness to dedicate their time and efforts to HCA and the museum, along with the dedication of other pioneering members, are the reason we can enjoy our beautiful museum and the friendship of our fellow collectors and HCA members.

We invite new and old members alike to attend this exciting event and share in the fun and joy of Heisey and take part in honoring the memories of these early Heisey heroes.



Collecting more than glass:

Industrious and insightful in the early 1950s, Percy and his brother Glenn bought and restored old cars at their Moore Brothers Garage on Church Street in Newark. In the mid-fifties, the boys decided to retire and started an auto museum to showcase their own cars while also including a full-size train locomotive.

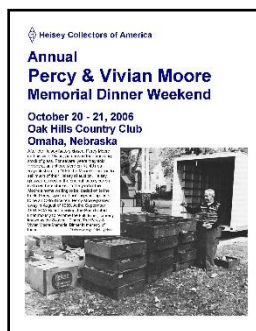
Percy Moore is pictured here “smashing” souvenir glasses that didn’t sell at the September 1982 Souvenir Dinner.

Past PVM Program Covers

These programs from previous Percy & Vivian Moore Memorial Weekends each included an overview of the Moores and their impact on the preservation and promotion of Heisey history. The excerpt below is from the 2006 program. - Courtesy of Mary Cameron

“After the Heisey factory closed, Percy Moore and his wife, Vivian, purchased the remaining stock of glass. For several years they sold Heisey at an antique store on Rt. 40 near Reynoldsburg. In 1980, the Moores decided to sell much of their Heisey at auction. In the picture below, Heisey glassware, most in the original factory carton, is shown stacked in the yard of the Moores’ home waiting to be loaded on to the truck. Percy is holding what appears to be an Oxford ice tea. Percy Moore passed away in August of 1989.

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Photo courtesy of Heisey News

