

Millersburg Glass Association
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Spring 2015 issue

President's Letter

By: Randy Jones

I had high hopes that when I wrote the President's letter for the March newsletter that this crazy cold and snowy weather would be over and the signs of spring would be upon us. Well, not so much.

Our club's secretary Bonny resigned and after a unanimous vote Debi Polin of Millersburg has taken over the position. Deb has collected Millersburg Glass for a number of years and will be a great secretary. Welcome Debi. I would like to thank Bonny for all services that she and her husband did for the club.

The officers of the club are already planning for next year's Fall Gathering. If you missed the 2014 gathering be sure to make your plans to join us this fall. The fall gathering will be Friday October 9, 2015 with the Millersburg Glass auction being Saturday October 10th, 2015. Everyone one is also invited to enjoy the Holmes County Antique Festival October 10th and 11th. The Jim Wroda Auction Company will be doing the glass auction. Watch for more updates in future newsletters.

Welcome all new members of the Millersburg Glass Association!

Make your plans NOW for the Millersburg Gathering October 9th and 10th 2015 in
Millersburg, Ohio located in beautiful Holmes County

Gary & Donna Braden Ben Cohen, Linda Dunham, Reg Dunham, Joseph Engle, Toni Fair, Helen Hall, Kenneth Hall, Martin S. Hall, Stephen & Deborah Hefling, Lela Knepp, Bruce Kuethey, Ervin & Ada Miller, Sharee Miller, Ron Patterson, Bill & Marge Rhoades, Aimee Sigler, Bill & Jill Toy, Andy & Mattie Troyer, Bill Troyer, Woody's Attic., Tom & Joanne Vickroy, Curtis Vietta, Sr.

Did you here about the find ???!! A 6" BLUE Rosalind ruffled bowl? WOW!! Congrats to the new owners! Did you make a find?? Tell us about it. Send your story and a photo to jimwroda@mac.com for the next newsletter. Doesn't have to be a super piece, just something you found. We would love to hear about it.



Gay 90's Water Set

By: Randy Jones

The Gay 90's 7-piece Water Set in Amethyst was found in a house in Western New York by New York collector Art Beedham. It was sold by Tom Burns, at auction, on February 2, 2002 at the Florida Sunshine Convention. John and Lorreta Neilsen were the successful bidders and took the set home for \$18,000.00.

In an event organized by Pete and Paula Bingham the Neilsen's put their Gay 90's set in a HOACGA display with 700 other water sets. The water sets

were voted on and the Gay 90's Amethyst set was voted the most beautiful water set out of all of them on display.

John and Loretta Nielsen sold the water set to Stacy and Des Wills, in a private sale, in April of 2003 for \$18,000.00. The water set was part of Stacy and Des' 2010 Wroda auction on the Courthouse lawn where Randy and Bo Jones purchased it.

To my knowledge, there are 6 known amethyst pitchers, 4 of which have cracked handles, 2 green and 2 in marigold, with one of those having damage.

How We Got Started Collecting Millersburg Glass

Dave was born at Pomerene Hospital in Millersburg which was across the street from the house where he lived on Wooster Rd. That area of town was known as "the glass plant annex". He heard growing up that the revenue from the property sales in the annex financed plant incentives.

Dave's grandmother, born in 1900, lived on W. Clinton St. She had a few pieces of Millersburg glass which she treasured. He recalls that she frequently showed him her 'gems'. So, at a young age, he learned that Millersburg glass was special. When Dave graduated from high school, his grandmother gave him her favorite piece, a punch bowl.

Twenty-three years later we acquired our second piece of Millersburg glass which had also belonged to his grandmother. In that time span, Dave and I met at BGSU in graduate school, married, had our children and moved several times. The punch bowl was never touched by hands other than ours. We had already started other collections such as antique furniture and continued my doll collection that I started as a child.

While living in Leawood KS for the next eleven years, we often attended antique shows, HOACGA Conventions and visited with Lucille Lowe when we returned to Millersburg. She was gracious enough to sell us a few of her pieces. During that time we were also privileged to become friends with John and Lucille Britt and many other collectors.

We became serious about collecting Millersburg glass in the late 1980's, about the time we moved to KS. It has been and is a fun hobby for us. It has provided us with fantastic memories and great friends.

Mary Anna Patterson

Some past experiences.

One day in 2001 I stopped at the Kidron flea market because I was in the area. I rarely stopped there because it is mostly either new stuff, fruits and vegetables, or junk. I was making a quick walk through when a piece of crystal caught my eye. I think they were asking \$15, but I only had a couple bucks in my pocket. My conundrum? Do I ask them to hold it for me and possibly arouse their suspicion or just go to the truck to get some cash? I walked away from the table, then ran to the truck after I was out of their sight. Luckily, the crystal Swirl Hobnail spittoon was still there when I got back. Shortly after I had bought it for \$12, I ran into another prominent Millersburg collector who asked me what I had in the bag. Whew! That was a close call. He was pretty impressed (and a little bummed that he didn't see it first)!

I went to an estate auction in Mt Eaton in the late 1980's or early 90's for a person who had worked at the Millersburg Glass factory as a boy, there were some good pieces of glass, including an unridized amethyst Swirl Hobnail spittoon. I really wanted it, but was outbid by another area collector/dealer. I believe he sold it to Tom Burns, who in turn sold it to a collector in Louisiana. A few years later I got a call from Tom asking if I would be interested in the spittoon. Of course I was, especially since it was less money than what it had sold for at the auction! Sometimes it pays to be patient.

I sell real estate for a local auction company. We have about 250 to 300 auctions a year. I try to get to any that I think might have anything interesting, but can't get to them all. We had a relatively small auction in 1999 less than 5 miles from home that I thought about attending, but did not make it. Shortly after, a local dealer called me to describe a small vase he had bought for \$70, but did not know what it was. I had a pretty good idea from his description and asked if I could see it. I drove right over to his place. I showed him the Edwards/Carwile 6th edition Carnival Glass Encyclopedia, which lists the pattern in the price guide. Of course he was reluctant to put a price on it. I finally convinced him to name a price. I think he thought I wouldn't take it for ten times what he paid, but I said 'Sold' and was thrilled to get the marigold Woodpecker and Ivy vase!

One more short story. I went to a local Amish farm auction in 2000 that had mostly junk. I did spot a small piece of Millersburg on one of the wagons. I did not see any other collectors. Just as the auction was starting, here comes the local dealer. Do you ever get the feeling some people bid on something just because you are bidding? I hid behind the shed so the dealer couldn't see me until after the little green Hobstar and Feather sauce sold. I was thrilled to get it and he couldn't figure out who the other bidder was until after it was over!

Steve Maag

You know these newsletter; functions; archives and of course most of all the clubs could not survive with out some wonderful people that volunteer their time to make this all happen. I would like to acknowledge some of those people in this newsletter That I may have missed in the last newsletter.

First Bonny Huelga, Bonny volunteered to be club secretary when the Millersburg Glass Assoc. first started and we thank her for that, also Bonny has helped us with a couple of auctions now at the Gathering. Her and Matthew never worked together nor did Bonny know our system but she stepped right in there and you would have thought Matthew and Bonny had worked together for years.. PERFECT! Also Mary Anne Patterson, She has supplied us with some WONDERFUL photos of the Gatherings especially this year some amazing photos capturing not only the glass but the people having a BLAST! Ray Miller for the table and chairs, Steve Maag, as always, stepped right in; Randy and Bo right there helping set up; Eric Stafford; Mr Ron Brenly; and so many more people make this all happen for you. If I didn't mention your name I do apologize but know we are all grateful for everything you do for the club. Oh yes one more person... Larry, how did he ever think of this, Cullens for the Barrel! Coming up with the fundraiser of the century! Way to go!

THANKS TO EVERYONE!

OUR FIRST VISIT TO MILLERSBURG 2014

Hi there,

This was our first trip to Millersburg, in which it took us eleven hours to drive there. If you have never been to Millersburg before you definitely have to go to this beautiful and historical city. I always wanted to go there ever since I got my Millersburg Courthouse Bowl five years ago at the WWWCGA convention in Greenville Ohio. I wanted to bring my bowl and take a picture of it with me in front of the Holmes County Courthouse.

The Courthouse Bowl is known in the seven inch size only and in amethyst, but come lettered and say Millersburg Souvenir Courthouse Millersburg Ohio and unlettered saying Millersburg Souvenir. They come in three shapes which are ruffled, three and one edge and ice cream shape. It has a Radium or Satin finish. The bowls were made as a gift to the people who help lay the gas lines to the Millersburg Glass Factory.

The courthouse is the first thing you see when you enter the center of town, what a beautiful building. We also visited the Millersburg Glass Factory which is now home to the International Packaging and Specialties (IPS) since 1987. The smoke stack and ovens are gone but the building is still there and is an awesome place to see. Just up the road from there is the Millersburg Glass Museum. Jocelyne and I had a great visit there with an educational film and great carnival and crystal to view.

I was getting thirsty and hungry so we started looking for a place. Right across the street from the courthouse is Bags Sports Pub, what a great place to eat and have a few drinks. They have their own brewery there and their beers are Yummy EH!!!!

The next day Ray Miller, who is on the board of directors of the Millersburg Glass Association and also a friend of ours since meeting him five years ago at the WWWCGA convention in Greenville Ohio asked us to lunch and wanted us to meet him at his place of work. On picking Ray up we saw some beautiful pieces of millersburg carnival in his office. He asked Jocelyne and I to come to his home first to see his collection of carnival glass which was mostly his favorite, Millersburg of course!!! and to meet his family. The glass was out of this world and his wife and kids were awesome. We ate at the Farmstead Restaurant in Berlin and everything there was home made by the Amish people.....HMM....HMM....good. After lunch we stopped at an antique mall across the road and picked up a few one of a kind pieces of carnival glass.

Back in Millersburg we stopped off at The Millersburg Glass and Collectibles Store, right across the street from the courthouse where we met and talked to the owner Gregg Oswald and also bought a nice marigold tricornered Blackberry Wreath sauce bowl. Gregg has a fine selection of carnival and other antiques and he also collects Millersburg. A GREAT store to visit when your in Millersburg.

That night at the Fall Gathering at the Millersburg Hotel we had food and drink and lot's of stories to be told by everyone. We met alot of NEW carnival friends there.

The next morning was the Millersburg Auction hosted by none other then Jim Wroda and his crew. They had a giant tent set up on the courtyard lawn with lots of great Millersburg Glass up for the taking. As I was checking out the glass I met two of our friends from the Canadian Carnival Glass club, Ingrid Spurrier and Jenny Bergman.....what a coincidence. Also lots of other friends from different clubs....We managed to pick up a few pieces as the bidding was fierce with lots of Amish people that were in the crowd and LOVE their Millersburg glass.

We also met Randy and Bo Jones and Steve and Gail Maag after the auction was over and we all headed across the street to Bags Sports Pub for a few drinks and a bite to eat. As I said before Carnival Glass People are the Best....

Just as we were eating our meals and having a CHIT CHAT the antique festival had their parade and we got to see it all where we were sitting, through the big bay windows...Randy and Bo asked us to go visit their place and to see their carnival glass collection. Their collection was breathtaking.....not only Millersburg Glass but other makers also. Jocelyne and I seen alot of one of a kind pieces of Millersburg glass in both Randy and Bo's collection and also Ray Millers, something we'll never forget ...Thank-you everyone. Boy are we glad we took this trip to Millersburg, what a FABULOUS time.

On driving home, that's all we talked about was Millersburg , the great history of the area, people and places to visit. We met new friends and will cherish it forever. A few weeks later I talked to Bo Jones on the phone and started telling her how much we enjoyed our first trip to Millersburg. I also told her we were coming back next year. As soon as I told Bo that, she replied...Well if your coming up next year, Jocelyne and you have to stay with us. Now if that's not hospitality what isn't. I told Bo right away of course we'll take you up on your offer!!!

Both Jocelyne and I can't wait till October of this year.....

Well that's our story of our first and not only trip to Millersburg Glass Fall Gatherings. If you have never been to Millersburg you have to go as it will be a trip you will never forget....Take a few extra days to visit nearby towns and Antique shops as you will meet great people and see and find beautiful glass in Millersburg. Now that Jocelyne and I have been to Millersburg...we met new people and made alot of new friends.

On the closing of this long and hope I didn't bore you story.... My latest find is this marigold Square Ray's and Ribbons bowl by Millersburg with the exterior cactus pattern. I got this at an auction in my city of Cornwall, Ontario for a mere \$15.00 Canadian which is about \$12.50 American. They advertised it as FLASH CARNIVAL!!!!!!!Boy am I glad not many people around here know about Millersburg Glass....The color and iridescence is FANTASTIC and in Pristine condition.

Till next time Take Care and Talk to you all again soon.

Brian and Jocelyne Granger- Ontario Canada

So Brian... want to double your money on that bowl?? American?? !