

Millersburg Glass Association Newsletter

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## Millersburg Glass Association

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***In the Spring 2022 Issue of the MGA Newsletter, we covered the chain of ownership of the Blue and the Green People's Vases. In this the Summer issue, we are providing the history of ownership of the Marigold and two of the five known Amethyst Vases. The Fall issue will provide information regarding the three remaining Amethyst People's Vases as space allows.***

*Once again the editor appreciates the role provided by a long list of collectors and resource people to explain the transactions and human interest stories related to the ownership path of these eight People's Vases. In doing this research the people are as fascinating as the glass they owned.*

*I thank resource people, Pete Bingham, Aaron Hurst, Galen & Kathi Johnson, Randy Jones, Christina Katsikas, Gary Likver, Steve Lindquist, Steve Maag, Tom Mordini, Billy Rogers, John Rogers, Gary Sullivan, and Stacy Wills.*

## **Marigold People's Vase Straight Up Design**

The Marigold People's Vase is One of a Kind. It is the only Marigold one known!!

The Marigold People's Vase was originally made by the Millersburg Glass Company, Millersburg, Ohio circa 1911. In an inventory researched by James Measell, he has record of 12 People's Vases. Today we only know of eight. On April 10, 1911, according to Professor Measell, the vases were called "Holland Vases." Their value was \$11.25 per dozen which was quite a large sum for any carnival glass. Measell was employed by the Fenton Art Glass Company in Williamstown, West Virginia. In recent years, we knew him as a manager of the Fenton Art Glass Factory Gift Shop.

One of the local stockholders of the Millersburg Glass Company was Dr. William F. Lohaas, a dentist in Millersburg for many years. After John Fenton's bankruptcy, the Marigold People's Vase was given to him in a distribution of the company's assets along with some other Millersburg glass.

### **Summary Marigold People's Vase Owners**

Dr. William F. Lohaas  
Nellie Lohaas (sister)  
John and Nellie (Lohass) Robinette  
Charlotte Allenbaugh  
Richard Loechinger  
Ed and Mary Elizabeth Collier  
Jim and Marlene Mogg  
Dr. Jack Adams and Mary Adams  
Mary Adams  
Charles and Eleanor Mochel  
Stacy and Desiree Wills  
Margaret Ports  
Dr. Chris Sieverdes (MG Museum)

Dr. Lohaas died on February 2, 1937 at age 65. His sister Nellie Lohaas inherited his glass including the Marigold People's Vase. She later married John Robinette and the couple lived in Wilmot, Ohio, a village 20 miles north of Millersburg on US 62. Needing income, she sold the vase at auction in August 1965. Charlotte Allenbaugh bought the vase at auction. She stated: "I had a lot of competition for the vase which was an outstanding piece. The competition ran her all the way up to \$40 to \$50!" ***Continued on page 2.***

Charlotte Allenbaugh of Dover, Ohio sold the Marigold Vase on September 25, 1967 to Richard Loechinger of Dayton, Ohio for \$650. Richard Loechinger was tasked as a proxy to get the vase for Charles Thrawley, a very prominent collector at that time. Charles Thrawley is from Spiceland, Indiana. Charles Thrawley, Peal and son Carroll Thrawley were owners of one of the best collections of carnival glass. Their's was an award winning collection. Thrawley was willing to pay \$600 for it, but Loechinger apparently decided to buy it for himself at \$650.

O. Joe Olson was at the Thrawley home where both the Blue and Marigold People's Vases were located. All present concluded that indeed both vases, the Blue and the Marigold, came from the same mold. Both were straight-up design.

In 1968, Loechinger consigned the Marigold Vase to the American Carnival Glass Association Convention in Dayton, Ohio. At the ACGA Auction, Ed and Mary Elizabeth Collier, from Memphis, Tennessee purchased the Marigold People's Vase for \$1,050. They kept it for eight years.

In February 1976, at the John Woody Auction, the Marigold People's Vase was sold to Jim and Marlene Mogg of Hamilton, Missouri for \$4,500. The Moggs apparently owned both the Blue People's Vase and the Marigold People's Vase. Observers stated that the Marigold Vase has better iridescence.

Dr. Jack Adams indicated that he purchased the Marigold People's Vase from Jim Mogg. Dr. Adams drove to Des Moines, Iowa and make the purchase in the parking lot of a well-known restaurant. O. Joe Olson, a newspaper reporter based in Kansas City reported the sale. The sales price was believed to be \$5,000. Adams was a psychiatrist from Huntington, West Virginia. Later in life, Dr. Adams suffered from Parkinson's Disease and ended up with major mental disorder resulting from the disease. He became institutionalized following the commission of a murder. "Dr. Adams had had surgery to have electrodes placed into his brain to stabilize his Parkinson's symptoms. It helped some but like in many other "victims" of this procedure it also caused violent actions and impulsive behaviors. This surgery is not practiced anymore because of the significant and anti-social side effects" (Source: Pete Bingham, 2022).

Pete Bingham stated "Both Whitley and I and mostly Paula, had been negotiating with Jack on a private purchase of the Marigold Vase, but the \$100,000 he wanted was too much at the time...he committed his crime shortly thereafter" (Source: Pete Bingham, 2022). Enter Charlie Mochel who was supposedly a close friend but showed himself to be otherwise. Word is that Mochel went to the Adam's home and purchasing as much precious glass as he could (Source: Anonymous).

As the story goes, Mochel told Mary that the "shear mark" that partially circles the inside of the vase near the base was a crack that severely diminished it's value. Mary should have been paid more for the Marigold Vase than she received. This circumstance angered many collectors who were in the know. Charlie Mochel died of cancer soon after his dealing with Mary Adams (Source: Anonymous).

Mrs. Mary Adams, Jack Adams' widow, sold the Marigold People's Vase to Charles (Charlie) and Eleanor Mochel in Overland Park, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City, Missouri in approximately 2006 for \$5,000. The Mochel family sold the Marigold People's Vase to Stacy Wills of the greater Columbus, Ohio area for \$80,000 in 2008.

Soon after the Will's purchase of the vase Stacy moved from his interest from collecting Carnival Glass and sold the majority of his collection at a Wroda Auction in 2008. Will and Desiree kept one pitcher for "old times sake" (Source: Pete Bingham, 2022). Stacy began collecting other novelties. On October 9, 2010 Stacy Wills sold the Marigold People's Vase to Margaret Ports of Wooster, Ohio at a Wroda Auction. The auction was held under a tent on the Courthouse Lawn next to the Court House steps in Millersburg.

Margaret Ports held the Marigold People's Vase for approximately nine years in Wooster, Ohio. She and her husband were in the Oil Distribution business. Margaret Ports sold the vase on March 26, 2019 in a private sale to Dr. Chris Sieverdes during a lunch meeting in the restaurant on the first floor of the historic Hotel Millersburg next to the Holmes County Courthouse. It was agreed that the vase would be displayed in the Millersburg Glass Museum in Millersburg. The museum is located about 3/10 of a mile from the Millersburg Glass Factory location on SR 83, an Amish Country Byway (Source: Chris Sieverdes, 2019). The Marigold People's Vase is now in the Millersburg Glass Museum sitting next to the Blue Vase for all to see.



### **Larry Cullen- The Ever Vigilant Collector Achieves Success**

*Staying with the theme of rare Marigold Millersburg Glass, it has come to the attention of the MGA Board that member, Larry Cullen had a recent find on eBay. He found a Marigold Hobstar and Feather 10 inch 4 sided square bowl with sides turned in—A rare find. The seller, from Texas, was glad “it was going back home.” Larry rubbed it in with fellow collector, Matt Young, by saying “Matt you got to remember when bidding on a piece of glass is going to end on eBay.” Matt forgot and by the time he remembered to check on it, Larry had already made the purchase. When Larry showed us the bowl, he was grinning from ear to ear.*

## **A Brilliant Amethyst People’s Vase Ruffled Top Design**

In the 1950s Forest and Margaret Hochstetler, who has since passed away, purchased a lot of 200 pieces including the People’s Vase for approximately \$55 at the Billy Richards Auction House. Hochstetler was in his nineties at the time. Included among the 200 pieces of glass was the brilliant Amethyst People’s Vase with the Ruffled Top Design. In time, it has proved to be the most brilliant vase among all Amethyst Ruffled People’s Vases known today. The exceptional Amethyst Ruffled People’s Vase was in a ship’s steamer trunk at a church bazaar. (Source: Billy Richards, 2022)

Hochstetler sold the vase to Aaron Hurst of Terre Hill, Pennsylvania for \$65,000 in 2007. Aaron Hurst held the excellent vase for about five years and he sold at a John Woody Auction in 2012 to Carroll Cook of Cuero, Texas (south of San Antonio) for \$85,000 in 2012.

Carroll Cook held the vase for ten years until his death in November 2021. Carroll Cook’s family estate sold the perfect Amethyst Ruffled People’s Vase at auction in Kansas City on April 23, 2022.

The auction managed by Jim and Jan Seeck was held in conjunction with the Heart of America Carnival Glass Association Convention (HOACGA), Carnival Glass Auction at the Embassy Suites Airport Hotel in Kansas City Missouri.

David Kastor, of Houston, Texas, purchased the special Amethyst Ruffled People’s Vase with the high bid of \$145,000.

### **Perfect Amethyst People’s Vase with Ruffled Top Owners**

Forest & Margaret Hochstetler  
Aaron Hurst  
Carroll Cook  
David Kastor

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## **Another Brilliant Amethyst People’s Vase with a Ruffled Top Design**

In 1996 Don Hamlet, a resident living in the greater Greensboro, North Carolina area, ventured with his buddy, John Rogers, to an auction house in Mebane, North Carolina. Mebane Antique Auction Gallery is located in Mebane, North Carolina on US 70 between Greensboro and Hillsborough just north of I-85/I-40. Lo and behold, John Rogers and Don Hamlet proceeded to the auction to find two Amethyst People’s Vases for sale.

According to the Christina Katsikas website, the story goes like this: "Two People’s vases came from Jon Lambert at Mebane Auction in North Carolina in June of 1996. Both vases had been found at a yard sale in Raleigh, NC. We were aware they were at the auction house and had seen them" (Source: Christina Katsikas website). Christina lives in Hookset, New Hampshire.

Don Hamlet purchased the excellent Amethyst People’s Vase for \$43,000. He has held it for the past 26 years.

An Excellent Amethyst People's Vase  
with Ruffled Top

Earlier Owners are unknown  
Jon Lambert  
Don Hamlet



***The following article is taken from the website  
of Christina Katsikas  
of Hooksett, New Hampshire.***

***She has a deep affection for carnival glass as well as the people associated with it.***

**Millersburg People's Vase in Amethyst with Ruffled Rim  
by Christina Katsikas**

**Description**

The famous Millersburg People's Vase, also known as the "Holland Vase", is eleven inches tall and seven inches wide. It has been reported in blue, green, marigold and amethyst. I don't know of any that have recently surfaced within the last ten years. They are the most coveted, the most expensive and the most historically recorded (for their provenance's sake) than any other vases in Carnival Glass.

John & Patricia Rogers, who are friends with Don & Becky Hamlet, have the twin to this vase, **also shown here on Showcase**, that they bought at the same time. These were originally found together in an estate and then sold at an auction where these two great men each acquired one.

Don & Becky Hamlet write, "Two People's vases came from Jon Lambert at Mebane Auction in North Carolina in June of 1996. Both vases had been found at a yard sale in Raleigh, NC. We were aware they were at the auction house and had seen them. We spent several nervous days waiting. The auction was well attended by carnival collectors. There were advanced collectors there and several phone bids. We were able to purchase one and John Rogers purchased one so they remained in North Carolina."

There are not many of these known to exist today. They're highly praised and prized possessions to the lucky few who own them. To read all about their fantastic history, go to this link for the best article ever researched, written by **Glen & Stephen Thistlewood**. It's a fascinating read. Thank you to the Thistlewoods for preserving a great piece of iconic Carnival Glass history. Re: The Don & Becky Hamlet Collection.

Pete Bingham writes, "It's nice to see glass from the Hamlet Collection and equally nice to see the People's Vase pix. As a previous People's Vase owner there's a couple observations I want to share. The first is unless you've held one in person you have no conception of the size and weight of these vases" (Source, Pete Bingham, 2022).

Pete also addresses a design feature on all People's Vases he has seen. There is a top to bottom "void space" in the pattern that isn't really noticed with casual glances. But once at a convention a couple of observant folks saw the 1½ to 2 inch void going down the full height of the pattern and we had to wonder - could this possibly have been intended to be a big tankard and the blank space a place to apply the handle? Considering the weight of the glass itself and then adding the weight of the liquid lifting and pouring would have been a strain at best so if a pitcher had been the plan, it had to be re-thought to being "just a vase." Just something to discuss that's a bit outside the box (Source: Pete Bingham, 2022).

(Source: <http://www.carnivalglassshowcase.com/product/millersburg-peoples-vase-amethyst-vase-hamlet.html>). This is Christina Katsikas' website.