

Millersburg Glass Association Newsletter

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**Millersburg Glass Association**

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***The next several issues of the MGA Newsletter will contain the entire list of known owners of the eight People's Vases.***

*This ambitious project meant that the editor attempted to leave no stone unturned in the quest to track the ownership chain for each vase. While it was not easy, the three "one-of-a-kind" People's Vases were slightly easier to track when compared to the five Amethyst Vases. The publication of this newsletter edition was delayed because data research and collection is very challenging. It was hard to follow a specific amethyst vase's path.*

*Some owners are deceased so the editor had to rely on witness testimony and some hearsay evidence. Other owners are fading like "old soldiers." Some owners are very private; so data is based on public reports and witnesses at glass conferences and auctions. Mix in some legends and some controversies about past sales and shenanigans "back in the day" and one discovers a winding path that some of the People's Vases took to their landing spots today.*

*As a former history major in college, this editor has enjoyed the ride. But, please forgive the editor if he fails to provide all correct information. He has a "who's who" list of carnival glass collectors who have helped him immensely to sort out the chain of ownership. If you see incorrect information, by all means contact the editor and straighten his ass out in a nice way!! A Carnival Smile is on my face!!*

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

***The review will begin with the Blue People's Vase. As a heading, I list the name and design of the vase and the current owner and location for each vase.***

## **Blue People's Vase Straight Up Design - Chris Sieverdes, Millersburg Glass Museum**

The Blue People's Vase is one of a kind. Weight is five pounds. Height is just under 12 inches. Diameter is approximately five inches.

The Blue Peoples Vase is very well documented. Jack Wilson states that it was first documented in 1963 when it was sold by Max Penny at an antique show in Wichita, Kansas to Emma Schrader for \$75.

In 1967, Mrs. Schrader put it in a John Woody Auction when it sold for \$1,350 to Charles Thrawley of Spiceland, Indiana.

In 1969 it was sold at Thrawley's Auction for \$2,700 to Alice Ferrish, a private collector from Sunny Vale, California. This sent shockwaves through the glass collectors' community. The Blue Vase resided with Alice Ferrish for about four years.

John Woody entered the arena again in 1973 when he bought it from Alice Ferrish for around \$4,400 according to the report written by Dr. Jack Adams. The auction occurred on July 14, 1973 in Des Moines, Iowa. The auction saw competition for the Blue People's Vase between Jim Mogg of Hamilton, Missouri and Herb Canon of Des Moines, Iowa. The bid price went as high as \$6,000 in \$100 increments and then Canon bid \$8,000. Jim Mogg bid \$8,100. John Woody said "Sold!". Jim Mogg held the Blue People's Vase for approximately nine years.

John Woody co-founded Woody Auction in Douglass, Kansas, near Wichita. He was born in 1942 and died of a heart attack on September 28, 2020. He had a reputation as an honest businessman and mentor to others.

This is a human interest note about Jim Mogg, a collector and resident of Hamilton, Missouri. Jim Mogg and Dean Hales of Hamilton, Missouri were the proud owners of the 1947 white Cadillac convertible that was the first car that Mr. J.C. Penney gave to his wife, Carolyn. Penney and his wife lived in New York and founded the J.C. Penney Department Store. He eventually left the car in Hamilton to use when he visited the family farm. Mogg and Hales stored the car in a garage for ten years. The Cadillac was fully equipped with a V-8 engine, hydramatic transmission, automatic windows, seat and black convertible top. It became a show car for parades.

On January 16, 1982, the Blue People's Vase showed up again at auction in the hands of the owner, Jim Mogg. The occasion was the John Woody Carnival Glass Auction in St. Louis, Missouri. Floyd and Cecil Whitley had already purchased the Green People's Vase for \$5,000 earlier. At the Woody Auction in St. Louis, the Whitley's asked Don Staley to bid on the Blue People's Vase. Staley purchased the Blue Vase for \$5,100 for Floyd Whitley.

It stayed in the Whitley collection for twenty-plus years. Floyd M. Whitley was Vice-President of the Natural Gas Pipeline Division of the Houston Natural Gas Company. His wife of 50 years, Cecil, was an elementary school teacher and School Principal. Floyd Whitley died at age 93 on July 4, 2021. Their son is Thomas Whitley. At one point Floyd Whitley owned three People's Vases: Blue, Amethyst and Green Vases. The Blue Vase and the Marigold Vase were each one of a kind and both have the straight-up edge design. He sold the Blue vase to Pete Bingham.

In 2001 Dr. Jack Adams reported that "it traded hands privately between Floyd and Cecil Whitley (of Houston, Texas) and Pete and Paula Bingham of Waco, Texas for the handsome price of \$75,000. Pete Bingham was in the cable television industry for a lengthy career.

In April 2006 at the HOACGA Conference and at a Jim Wroda Auction in Kansas City, Missouri The Pete and Paula Bingham Carnival Glass collection sold at the Heart of America Carnival Glass Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. Included in the collection was the Cobalt Blue People's Vase. The Bingham's the Blue People's Vase to Stacy and Desiree Wills of Galloway, Ohio, a town near Columbus, Ohio for \$100,000. This was the first piece of carnival glass to bring six figures in a public sale. It was a record-breaking event.

In 2013 Stacy Wills sold the Blue Vase to Joe Weaver of Dundee, Holmes County, Ohio for \$100,000 at a Jim Wroda Auction Services of Greenville, Ohio. Dr. Jack Adams reported that the Blue People's Vase had resided in Texas "for nearly a quarter century." Now it was back in Holmes County, Ohio 20 miles from Millersburg with the new owner, Joe Weaver, an Amish building construction contractor.

On June 16, 2018 Chris Sieverdes, owner of the Millersburg Glass Museum in Millersburg, Ohio purchased the Blue People's Vase at a Wroda Auction in Marietta, Ohio. The auction contained Joe Weaver's crystal and carnival glass collection. Much of it was Millersburg Glass but Fenton, Northwood, Dugan, and Imperial glass were included in the large Weaver collection.

The selling price of the People's Vase was \$155,000, the highest price ever paid for a piece of Millersburg Glass. Again, a record was broken. It was listed in the auction program as "Millersburg BLUE People Vase. EXTREMELY RARE! The most ICONIC piece of Carnival Glass ever made. This vase is considered by most to be the KINGPIN of all carnival glass, not just Millersburg. A fantastic opportunity to purchase this vase" (Source: <https://www.hookedoncarnival.com/>).

## **2. Green People's Vase Ruffled Design - David Kastor, Houston, Texas**

The Green People's Vase is one of a kind. It is the only green one known.

The Ken and Ruth Clark Auction occurred in Indianapolis in the Spring of 1973. They owned the Green People's Vase. It sold for \$7,100. The story goes that the Clarks found it in a shop in the Chicago area. The Green People's Vase was used to display artificial flowers.

Floyd Whitley purchased the Green Ruffled People's Vase. The purchase price could have been \$5,000 in or about 1982. He eventually owned three People's Vases: Blue, Green and Amethyst. Pete Bingham reports that the Whitley's and the Bingham's agreed that the Green People's Vase was the prettiest from among the Blue, the Green and the Amethyst vases. It is truly outstanding.

Sometime around 2010, Floyd Whitley sold the Green People's Ruffled Rim Vase to Carroll Cook of Cuero, Texas for \$60,000. It was a private transaction brokered by Tom Mordini of Freeport, Illinois.

The HOACGA Conference took place at the Embassy Suites in Kansas City, Missouri. This is the usual meeting place for the HOAGA Conference. Carroll Cook's room display featured his green carnival glass collection including his beloved Green People's Vase.

Carroll Cook sold the Green Ruffled People's Vase to David Kastor of Houston, Texas. The auction occurred on Saturday, April 28, 2018. The sales price is unknown.

Currently, David Kastor of Houston, Texas owns the Green Ruffled People's Vase.

*The next issue of the MGA newsletter will address the Marigold People's Vase ownership chain. Depending on space and feedback about the amethyst vases from owners' and witness accounts, the issue will cover two amethyst vases. Some stories of paths are complicated. Like which amethyst vase did you own? The mystery deepens. Stay tuned. The next issue will be available this summer. Editor.*

### **A True Story from a Carnival Glass Collector**

*It's In the Hunt by Jini Shy*

Roger and I enjoy stopping at antique stores and flea markets always looking for something special. A number of years ago we stopped at an antique store and happened to see what I thought was a Millersburg marigold diamonds tumbler. What a great deal at \$8.00 and then an additional 20% off. Another time we were shopping at a large flea market and as we were walking through, I stopped to look at a big table with glass and kitchen items. In the center sat a green dish. On closer inspection I saw that it was a ruffled Rays N Ribbons Bowl. The dealer came over and said, if I liked it, he would let me have it for \$5.00. I couldn't get my money out fast enough. I was surprised that someone else had not already scooped it up. I now have to tell you about my final surprising purchase. At an auction, I spotted an 8 inch crystal Country Kitchen bowl and decided wait out the auction's procession of sales starting at 9:00 am. I watched for three hours waiting for that Country Kitchen bowl to come up. Almost everything at the auction had sold and lots of people when home. I bid \$1.00 and won the bid!! I was delighted!! The moral to the story, "we all know there are pieces to be found and Roger and I are still in the hunt!" Keep the joy of glass collecting!!

### ***Fundraiser for the local Millersburg Glass Association: Car Show and Museum Tour.***

*Our newest MGA board member, Matt Young, brought up a novel fundraising idea. Host an (Antique) Car Show and bring the glass audience and the car collectors together in one fundraising event. Date is Saturday, July 30 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm on the Victorian House and MG Museum grounds. This is a wonderful opportunity to blend two sets of collector.*

# Millersburg Glass Association

*Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show*

**Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Millersburg Glass Museum

484 Wooster Rd, Millersburg, OH 44654



*Dash Plaques & Trophies!  
Dj Playing Your Favorite Music!  
Food and 50/50 Raffle!*

**Open to All Makes, Models, and Years**

**Registration Fee: \$10**

**Registration at 4pm, Show 5-8**



**Glass Museum and Victorian House Tours Available!**

