

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

www.glassclub.org

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Fall 2007

New Bedford Museum of Glass Installs American Historical Glass

Currently on loan at the New Bedford City Hall, the New Bedford Museum of Glass (NBMOG) installed more than 500 examples of American historical glass. As part of the opening event in March of this year, Museum Director, Kirk Nelson gave a lecture reviewing highlights from the collection and described progress in the museum's effort to relocate to New Bedford.

The loan exhibition was prompted by the donation to the museum of nine large display cases from trustee Louis O. St. Aubin, Jr. and his partner William Pitt. It is now one of the most extensive displays of American historical glass ever mounted.



NBMOG Director Kirk Nelson

Most of the items on display were part of the 1,500 piece collection donated to the museum in 1999 by the late Mrs. Warren P. Tingley. Mrs. Tingley was a tireless student of American Glass and history who built her collection over a three decade period. Special strengths in the collection include 19th century political campaign glass, glass from the 1876



Geo. Washington Bust by Gillinder for the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, 1876

Centennial Exhibition, Bicentennial glass, and glass commemorating political figures and historical events.

Particularly impressive are the four portrait plates depicting the candidates of the 1884 presidential election: the victorious Democratic ticket of Grover Cleveland and Thomas Hendricks, and the defeated Republican ticket of James Blaine and John Logan.



The plates were pressed by Gillinder & Sons of Philadelphia and are celebrated for the exquisite detail and artistry of their moldwork. Glass Historian Melvin P. Lader, in his article

"Classic: A Study in Early American Pattern Glass" (Glass Club Bulletin, Fall 1990), describes them as "the climax of the moldmaker's art in the glass industry."

A fascinating Mt. Washington piece is decorated with the image of a rather severe-looking woman, skirt hiked immodestly above her knees as she strides forward carrying an American flag. The figure undoubtedly was intended as an unflattering symbol of the woman's suffrage movement, which pursued the

right of women to vote in national elections. The movement became especially active in the last quarter of the 19th century but did not achieve its goal until the passing of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920.



Mt. Washington Vase, detail

The Museum celebrates the memory of Mrs. Warren P. Tingley. Her dedication to the study of American glass and history resulted in the extraordinary collection that so perfectly compliments its current installation at the seat of local government. New Bedford City Hall is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

I seem to recall a song about those summer winds, long in our memory, real or imagined. Now, as I begin this missive, gusting winds blanket our deck with leaves. Of course, it's Labor Day, and the days of autumn will very soon command our full attention.

Board members and committee chairs will gather for their semi-annual meeting on Friday, October 12th, 7:30 pm, in the Cohocton Room, Radisson Hotel Corning in Corning, NY. Over the years a fall meeting has been scheduled to coincide with a free time slot during Corning Museum's annual seminar. The 46th Annual Seminar on Glass, *Nature in Glass*, will be held on October 11-13.

Committee reports will include plans for the 2008 celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the founding of NAGC and a preliminary report from the Strategic Planning Committee. The Anniversary Committee is chaired by Barbara Lessig. Can you volunteer time, or offer suggestions for the celebration? Barbara will welcome your letter, or e-mail: BMLessig@aol.com

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has the challenging task of contemplating and shaping NAGC programs and practices for the 21st century. Co-chairs are Carl Gortzig, cgortzig@twyny.rr.com and Mary Cheek Mills, millsmc@cmog.org. Do give the matter some thought and share your contemplations and ideas with Carl and Mary.

I want to shift focus at this point and offer, on behalf of the NAGC membership, a hearty congratulations to the Rushlight Club as they gather next month for the 75th Anniversary Meeting of the world's oldest lighting club. www.rushlight.org

The Rushlight Club, an international association of collectors and students of historic lighting, was founded in 1932 "to shed light on the lights of the past" through research and study of early lighting devices (both metal and glass). The Club's official publication is *The Rushlight* founded in 1934.

For glass collectors seeking information on burners and manufacturers, the *Rushlight* archives may be helpful and are now available on DVD. These archives are the single most important source for lighting information with over 4,000 pages of articles which can be printed directly from the DVD. This resource will be available to both members and non-members by contacting Mrs. Jane Rausch, Corresponding Secretary; pjr51@comcast.net

My best greeting,
Larry Steimer

2008 Glass Seminar in Boston

For our 24th Annual Glass Seminar in conjunction with the year-long celebration of NAGC's 75th Anniversary, we return to where our club started - Boston. Under the original name of the National Early American Glass Club our past combines with Boston's as our club's meetings were held at the Park Street Church (erected in 1810), which is part of the historic Freedom Trail.

Plans are underway for the "one-of-a-kind" glass experiences that are always part of the official Seminar days of Friday and Saturday, May 9 & 10, 2008. However, since Boston, Cambridge, and the surrounding areas offer so much, we want everyone to consider taking advantage them by arriving early and/or staying after the Seminar.

... visit Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall... walk the Freedom Trail and see the Old North Church, Paul Revere's House, King's Chapel, and the Granary Burying Grounds... visit the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Hayden Planetarium at the Museum of Science... see the swan boats at the Public Garden and walk through Boston Commons...

Situated on the Charles River with wonderful views of the Boston skyline, our Seminar will take place at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge. The hotel has offered to extend our very reasonable Seminar room rate of \$129 (for single and doubles) for 3 days before and after the official Seminar reserved nights of May 8 - 10, 2008 subject to room availability. www.cambridge.hyatt.com

... stroll along the paths of the Charles River and watch the college teams crewing on the water... walk to the M.I.T. campus and visit the M.I.T. Museum... walk around Harvard Square, Brattle Street (Tory Row), and Harvard Yard... visit the Wadsworth House, the Harvard Coop, the Longfellow National Historic Site, the Harvard University Museums...

May is notoriously a busy "convention month" for Boston. **We encourage everyone to make room reservations now or as soon as possible to take advantage of our deeply discounted room rate of \$129 per night.** Call the Hyatt toll free number (800) 233-1234 or the Hyatt Regency Cambridge at (617) 492-1234.

Be sure to say that you are reserving for the NAGC Seminar. As we get closer to May dwindling availability at the hotel may prevent you from adding days outside the actual program days. The Hyatt's cancellation policy is that reservations can be cancelled with 24 hours notice without penalty.

... have a lobster, some clams, or a cup of chowder at one of Boston's famous seafood restaurants... visit Beacon Hill with its stately brick Federal style town houses, gaslight street lamps, and shop at the antique stores along Charles Street... see the wonderful views of Boston and Cambridge from the 50th floor skywalk at the Prudential Center... walk around the infamous glass encased John Hancock Towers... from the Pru walk across the glass bridge to the Shops at Copley Place...

The Seminar Committee is working hard putting together the schedule of speakers and activities and will be making announcements as soon as plans are finalized. Meanwhile, for any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any member of the Seminar Committee - Loreen Ryan at (914) 337-5554, loreen_ryan@msn.com, Kirk Nelson at (508) 984-1666, glassartkn@aol.com, and Karen Petraglia at (603) 472-5998, kp0828@aol.com

... take a ride on the "T" or see the sights on a Boston Duck or Trolley Tour... shop the boutique stores and art galleries along Newbury Street... take the water ferry to the Boston Harbor Islands... visit the John F. Kennedy Library & Museum... enjoy authentic Italian dining in the old North End... see the Bunker Hill Monument and the USS Constitution at the Charlestown Navy Yard... tour Fenway Park and Yawkey Way... visit the new Institute of Contemporary Art... the antique shows at Brimfield (about a 2 hr. drive west of Boston) begin on Tuesday, May 13, and if you have never been, it really is a not to be missed experience...

Please mark your calendars. Consider staying before and/or after the Seminar, and make your hotel reservations NOW. Help celebrate our 75th Anniversary; plan on being part of the NAGC Glass Seminar in Boston next May!

Glass Calendar

(Confirmation of dates and schedules advised. More information is available on our web page at www.glassclub.org)

Through September 11, 2007

THE SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM proudly presents *A Journey of Glass & Metal*: Lynne Anderson an exhibit by the noted jewelry artist. Lynne comes from a long line of jewelry makers and the antique tools her ancestors used to make jewelry for Swedish Royalty will be on display along with her work in the Museum's Contemporary Gallery. Using advanced skills, Lynne works with the same tools her grandfather used in creating tiaras for the Queen of Sweden. Each piece is individually designed and made with attention to artistic detail. Lynne's work reveals her command of traditional metal-working as well as the newer precious metal clay medium. 129 Main Street, Sandwich, MA 02563 (508) 888-0251

www.sandwichglassmuseum.org

Through September 16, 2007

PITTSBURGH GLASS CENTER 5472 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (412) 365-2145. *Allure of Japanese Glass*. 17 Emerging glass artists from Japan will exhibit work in PGC's first international exhibition curated by Harumi Yukutake and Tomoko Aoki. www.pittsburghglasscenter.org

Through October 21, 2007

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371 www.cmog.org *Curiosities of Glassmaking*

Through November 25, 2007

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371 www.cmog.org *Botanical Wonders: The Story of the Harvard Glass Flowers*.

Through December, 2007

STEBEN Madison Ave. (at 61st St.), New York, NY 10065. Josh Simpson, contemporary glass artist in a solo exhibit of his work at Steuben's flagship store, 1-800-STEBEN. Josh will be there in person on September 19 & 20 and December 4 & 5, noon - 6pm. <http://joshsimpson.com>

Through January 6, 2008

WHEATON ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER, 1501 Glasstown Rd., Millville, NJ 08332 (800) 998-4552 www.wheatonarts.org "Celebrating Connections: Contemporary Glass by Mid Atlantic Artists" An invitational exhibition which showcases the art-

work of glass artists living in the Mid-Atlantic region. 60 artists will exhibit work created in the past 3 years.

Through February 3, 2008

MUSEUM OF GLASS, 1801 DOCK STREET TACOMA, WA (253) 284-4750. *Mining Glass*, a new exhibition that explores how the medium of glass has gained prominence in 21st century contemporary art. Featuring the installation and sculptural works of Wim Delvoye, Teresita Fernández, Mona Hatoum, Maya Lin, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Kiki Smith, Fred Wilson, and the late Chen Zhen.

<http://museumofglass.org>

September 13 - 15, 2007

CARDER STEUBEN CLUB *Shared Desires: A Unity of Glass and Metal* Corning Museum of Glass, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371. www.cmog.org The symposium, presented by the Carder Steuben Club will explore the artistry and history of pieces created by Devillbiss perfumes, Roycroft Copper craftsmen, Crest Lamps, Frank Art, Art Lamp, Oscar Bach and others. The event will showcase the artistry achieved by early 20th century metal craftsmen who combined their pieces with Carder Steuben glass. To receive the program itinerary or to register for this event, contact Alan Shovers at (812) 423-3183 or ashovers@kddk.com www.cardersteubenclub.com

September 15 & 16, 2007

The SANDWICH GLASS MUSEUM www.sandwichglassmuseum.org The 20th Annual Cape Cod Glass Show & Sale will be held at the Skylight Room of the Corpus Christi Church in Sandwich, MA. The Corpus Christi Church is located just off exit 3 on Quaker Meeting House Road. Forty-five nationally prominent glass dealers will offer antique & collectible American & European glassware from the 18th to the 21st centuries. The glassware will include free-blown, blown-molded, and pressed glass as well as Art glass, marbles, Victorian and more.

October 11 - 13, 2007

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 937-5371 www.cmog.org *Nature in Glass*, The 46th Annual Glass Seminar.

October 12 & 13, 2007

VASELINE GLASS COLLECTORS INC 2007 Convention Holiday Inn Select International Airport, San Antonio, TX www.vaselineglass.org

October 18 - 20, 2007

Members and guests of MT. WASHINGTON & PAIRPOINT GLASS SOCIETY are anxiously awaiting their 16th Glass Seminar at College Station, TX. Included will be visiting the extensive American Cut Glass Collection, the Jordan Decorative Arts, the D.C. Smith paperweights, The Runyon Galleries: Steuben, French Cameo, Tiffany, Mt Washington and much more. Three libraries not to be missed can be found at the Cushing Memorial Library, George Bush Presidential Library and a six floor archival addition loaded with documents of all kinds. JOIN US! Carmen.freeman@verizon.net or (941) 966-4406.

October 20 & 21, 2007

HISTORICAL HOT GLASS WORKSHOP, 6411 Fall Clove Rd., DeLancey, NY 13752 (845) 676-4622; artlindareed@catskill.net Sweetwater Glass presents a demonstration workshop on *19th Century Glassblowing Techniques & Technology*. Learn pillar molded, blown three mold, threading, and applied handles techniques. Call for registration details.

www.sweetwaterglass.com

November 6, 2007 through 2008

MORSE MUSEUM 445 North Park Ave., Winter Park, FL (407) 645-5311. www.morsemuseum.org One of the most basic approaches to any artist is biographical, a study that involves looking at a lifetime's work from the perspective of the facts of that life. Alongside some of the main known facts of Tiffany's life, this exhibition presents some of the personal objects Tiffany owned, various records and awards, and many of his artistic creations to provide an appreciation that biography can bring to art. Objects will range from an 1865 sketch album from 17-year-old Tiffany's first visit to Europe to silver-and-ivory cuff links used by the artist to a few works from the most extensive personal project of his career, the country estate he built on Long Island between 1902 and 1905.

13th Annual Fall Auction at Green Valley

On September 19th - 22nd, Green Valley Auctions will be holding their 13th annual auction of Early American Pattern and Victorian glass and Lighting. Due to the increasing demand for online catalogs and the continued decreasing sales of the glossy printed catalogs, they will not be publishing an illustrated catalog for this auction. You will be able to download and/or print the usual detailed catalog from the website.

www.greenvalleyauctions.com

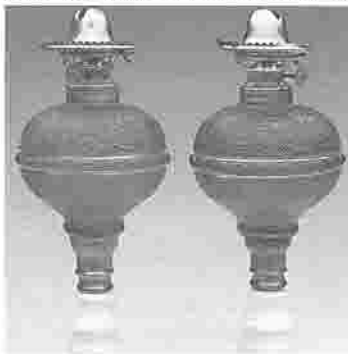
They will be publishing a fully-illustrated color catalog for the November auction as well as posting it on the web site. They plan to



Leaf Umbrella by Northwood

continue to publish a glossy catalog for the Spring glass auction as well as important single-owner collections.

The September auction includes the Henry 60-piece collection of Northwood's *Leaf Umbrella* including pieces ex-collection of William Heacock and Bill Gamble and illustrated in *Harry Northwood The Early Years 1881-1900*. Colors include cranberry, mauve and blue. Forms include rare



Overshoot Lamp Fonts by Sandwich

breakfast covered sugar and creamer, sugar shakers, cruet & syrups, cracker jar, vases, water pitchers, etc.

Also, there is a rare pair of Sandwich cranberry overshoot fonts on decorated opaque white bases. GVA, 2259 Green Valley Lane., Mt. Crawford, VA.

Steuben's Merry-Go-Round Bowl



As part of an exhibition celebrating the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's marriage to Prince Philip, the royal consort, Steuben's exquisitely engraved Merry-Go-Round Bowl designed by American sculptor Sidney Waugh will be on public view at Buckingham Palace.

The magnificent bowl with its crown-like finial was President Harry Truman's wedding gift to the royal couple in 1947, setting a precedent for the acceptance of Steuben glass as the official diplomatic gift of United States presidents.

When Steuben president Arthur Amory Houghton, Jr.—an Anglophile and familiar figure in London social circles—heard that the U.S. embassy was seeking an appropriate wedding gift for the princess, he packed up the newly completed Merry-Go-Round Bowl along with a set of ten Audubon Plates engraved with drawings from the famous *Birds of America* series, and set sail for London. There he met with the U.S. ambassador to the Court of St. James, who was so taken with the brilliance of the glass and beauty of the engraving that he chose the plates as his personal gift to the princess, then convinced President Truman to purchase the Merry-Go-Round Bowl as the official American gift of state.

The American public was fascinated with every aspect of the royal wedding, and Steuben obliged their interest by making a duplicate of the Merry-Go-Round Bowl and selected Audubon Plates, which were then displayed in Steuben's Fifth Avenue shop and elsewhere.

(article taken from steuben.com)

Contemporary Glass at Corning

The first in a new series of focus exhibitions celebrating the diverse work of contemporary studio glass artists, "*Masters of Studio Glass: Joel Philip Myers and Steven I. Weinberg*" opens at The Corning Museum of Glass on November 2, 2007. Inspired by an unprecedented gift of art in 2006 from Chicago collectors Ben W. and Natalie Heineman, the series provides a platform for in-depth surveys of individual artists represented in the Museum's collection.

The new exhibit not only showcases the artists' accomplishments, but also reveals the versatility of the medium, honoring the material's remarkable capability to assume a wide range of expressions. The exhibition presents the evolution of the artists' respective techniques, and shows how each has developed new and complex ways to work with glass.

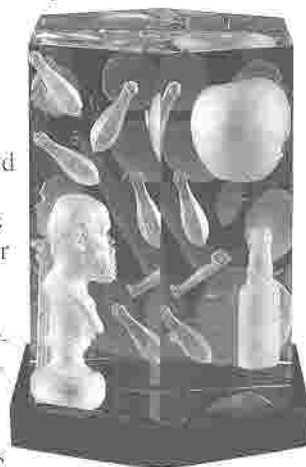
"I am so pleased to announce the launch of this new exhibition series, which allows us to examine more deeply the work of individual artists represented in our collection and to bring more of their work to the public," said executive director Dr. David Whitehouse.

Myers and Weinberg have exhibited extensively internationally and are studio glass innovators. In this show, Myers' warm, painterly vessels are placed alongside Weinberg's hard and brilliant sculptures cast in colorless lead glass.

The former explore color and fluidity whereas the latter express the transparent and reflective qualities of glass.

by Steven I. Weinberg

Both artists work with the abstraction of natural forms yet their objects stand in clear contrast to each other. cmog.org



Glass Show Returns to Sandwich & a New Location

The Sandwich Glass Museum will be sponsoring the 20th Annual Cape Cod Glass Show & Sale on September 15 and 16, 2007, at the Skylight Room of the Corpus Christi Church in Sandwich, MA. The Corpus Christi Church is located just off Route 6 at Exit 3, 324 Quaker Meetinghouse Road.

There will be about 45 nationally prominent glass dealers offering unique antique and collectible American and European glassware from the 18th to the 21st century. Visitors will have the opportunity to see the Art glass of Tiffany, Steuben, Durand and Quezel, fine products from Galle, Baccarat, Daum and other French makers, brilliantly cut glass by Hawkes and Libbey, Depression-era pressed glass by Heisey, Imperial and Cambridge and, of course, Sandwich glass in a dazzling array of colors and patterns. Several contemporary glassmakers will be at the show. Joan Kaiser and Whitehouse Books of Corning, NY will offer reference books.

Please plan a visit to the unique Cape Cod Glass Show in September! The Glass Show will be open from 10am to 5pm on Saturday and from 11am to 4pm on Sunday.

All proceeds from admissions will benefit the Sandwich Glass Museum and its educational programs.

Glass Collectors Expo

Visitors are invited to join hundreds of glass collectors and more than a dozen regional and national glass clubs for a celebration of Western Pennsylvanian glass for Senator John Heinz History Center's *Glass Collectors Expo*, September 15 & 16, 2007, 1212 Smallman St., Pittsburgh, PA. (412) 454-6000 www.pghhistory.org

The History Center's 5th floor Mueller Education Center will transform into a glass wonderland featuring dozens of dazzling displays of historic glass. On Sunday, Jane Shadel Spillman, Corning's Curator of American Glass, will present "*Pittsburgh Glass: History in a Grain of Sand*." Please contact Danni Hale at (412) 454-6373 or ddhale@hswp.org

Extensive Research on 18th C. Wistarburgh Glass

Adding to his growing list of glass research books, Dale Murschell has written and produced a "Workbook for those interested in studying the products of the Wistarburgh Glass Works in Alloway, NJ". Entitled

Wistarburgh: Window Tiles, Bottles and More the 160

page, soft cover book details the archeological findings dug at the factory site between 1990 through 2004. As

with his previous book on Maryland Glass, Dale creates new interest in a difficult and overlooked topic. With the help of professional excavators, local enthusiasts and the current properties owner, Dale conducted the research, compiled the data and has presented his findings. A majority of the artifacts are now housed at the Wheaton Arts and Cultural

Center in Millville, NJ and available to researchers.

The book begins with illustrations of field maps, carefully dug holes and tiny shards. The difficult and painstaking task of shifting through tons of rock,

soil and debris is well described. We are shown various bottle forms, pontils, lip shapes and variations, all clearly documented. The book continues

with hundreds of complete and intact forms discovered at the site, from private collections and from museums. With his careful analysis and documentation of material from one of America's earliest glass manufacturers, accurate attribution is now more reliable.

Dale Murschell, HC 65 Box 2610, Campbell Rd., Springfield, WV 26763 dmurschell@frontiernet.net

9th Annual Vaseline Glass Convention

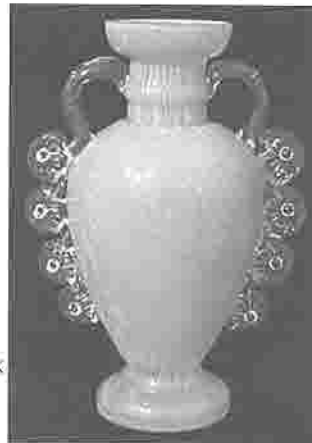
The 9th Annual Vaseline Glass Collectors Inc., (VGCI) Convention will be held in San Antonio, TX on October 12 & 13, 2007. Site of the convention will be Holiday Inn Select Hotel, International Airport, San Antonio, TX. 78216.

The speakers will be Jack Loranger (glass artist), Sherry Stevenson (Czech glass expert) and Tim Novak (curator of the Hodge collection, Texas A&M—one of the finest collections in the world of

English cameo glass). There will be competition between display tables again this year. Awards will be given for Best Piece, Best Theme, Most Educational, Largest Display and Board Choice. Everyone has a chance to win!

www.vaselineglass.org
alicevee@yahoo.com

Left: Art Glass Vase, maker and age unknown. Opaque pink vase covered with a gather of vaseline glass, then blown in a spot mold to show a peacock feather repeating pattern



Below: Convention table display by Dr. David Morgret



Research, Publication & Glass News

NAGC Resources

For almost 70 years, NAGC members have been very fortunate to have *Glass Club Bulletin* editors providing us with original articles and research on a wide variety of glass-related topics. Take advantage of this treasure trove of glass information and visit the NAGC web site, www.glassclub.org, and click on *Bulletins* under the *Publications* heading to find the subject index for all the articles. Past issues of the *Glass Club Bulletin* from No. 1 printed in March 1938, to the current Summer 2007, No. 208, are available for \$4 per issue.

The NAGC library of videotapes, many of which are not available elsewhere, covers glass topics that are very useful for club meetings or for your own viewing and are available for rent for \$15.

Thank you to our webmaster, Francis Allen, for maintaining the NAGC web site and making this information available to us. If you would like past issues of the *Glass Club Bulletin* or to rent a video please contact Karen Petraglia at (603) 472-5998 or kp0828@aol.com

Vaseline Glass Rarities

Vaseline Glass Rarities: Art Glass, Pressed Glass and Victorian Novelties by David A. Peterson © 2007, 79 color pages, hard cover.

With his third book on Vaseline Glass, Dave Peterson continues to be a major force behind the phenomena of glowing glass. Mr. Peterson edits the newsletter *The Glowing Report*, which serves as a focal point for the national collectors group, Vaseline Glass Collectors, Inc. Over the last 10 years, he has grown from an enthusiastic collector to author and historian, sharing his knowledge and generously giving of his time, benefiting all. His recent works, *(Vaseline Glass: Canary to Contemporary* ©2002, and its sequel, *The Last Chapters* ©2004) are well executed and valuable resources. The *Rarities* volume concentrates on the

beauty of the subject rather than its historical context. Vaseline Glass is by definition vibrant, bold, over the

top. Those illustrated here go beyond that and represent the "holy grail" of Vaseline Glass collecting.

Most of the pieces would be interesting in any color but when seen in the dazzling green/yellow of the Vaseline or Canary color, they take on an entirely new dimension.

Meant as more of a *Wow* than a reference, Mr. Peterson succeeds in

his purpose of entertainment. Because of his efforts we are offered a glimpse of the finest examples of privately owned Vaseline cut, engraved, pressed and blown glass normally hidden from public view.

We thank him for that.



Water Pitcher by Okra Glass Co., Stourbridge, England c. 2006

Upcoming books

Coming later this year, *Glass Salt & Pepper Shakers of the 19th & 20th Centuries*. Work continues on the final format with more than 1200 shakers illustrated. Richard A. Davis author e-mail: comis@gwi.net

First Class

DECEMBER 1, 2007
DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE'S

<http://www.glassclub.org>
visit NAGC web page

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ATTENTION READERS!
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Alice Walsh, Editor, Glass Shards, 11 Bentwood Street,
Foxborough, MA 02035
or reach us through email at: aswalsh@comcast.net



The National
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