

Glass Shards

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN GLASS CLUB

<http://home.att.net/~NAGC>

Founded 1933

A Non-Profit Organization

Winter 1999

Museum of Cambridge Glass Struck by Flood

On Sunday night June 28, 1998, heavy flooding in the Cambridge, Ohio area resulted in the flooding of the National Cambridge Collectors, Inc. Museum. Three days of heavy thunderstorms and hail caused heavy damage across much of Southeastern Ohio and West Virginia.

In total, approximately five and a half feet of water occupied the Museum building. Sunday night as flood waters rose, a team of about 25 volunteers worked to elevate critical pieces of glassware to higher shelves. Without the efforts of these heroes, resultant damage could have been much more severe.

As of Saturday morning July 4th, the damage to glassware in the building was miraculously light compared to expectations earlier in the week. Fewer than one hundred pieces at this time are known to have sustained damage. That is not the situation regarding paper materials, resale inventory (such as NCC books), and the building itself including shelf units and cabinets.

Flood waters continued to rise through Tuesday. Some volunteers took boats or canoes to the building to give us progress reports. Waters receded on Wednesday and the building was protected overnight by a dedicated group of members. The building was able to be entered on Thursday at 10:30 a.m. A team of volunteers worked quickly to secure glass from shelf units that were vulnerable and begin the involved process of cleaning glass, examining damage, and taking an inventory of items. Many items floated to different parts of the building and had to be found.

Based on excellent guidance provided by the Corning Glass Museum which had experienced



Glass in disarray at the Museum

similar flooding, procedures were in place to preserve many of the paper items. Freezers were brought in to quickly freeze important catalogs that will then be photocopied to preserve their contents. The building now is totally secure. New alarm systems have already been installed in the main museum building and in the storage building as well.

Members of NCC might expect some delays in club services as a result of the natural disaster that has occurred. Crystal Ball's for July and August were delayed as well as book orders and general membership correspondence. Needless to say, the Museum has been officially closed for the season.

Moving forward, much help is needed. There are several volunteers on site assisting in the reclamation process, but they will need relief. This is a long term process, possibly extending over many months. People may come directly to the Museum for work crews at 9 a.m. each day or can

contact Marybelle Teters at (740) 432-1190 or J.D. Hanes at (740) 432-6794 to discuss scheduling that might meet your needs and help the club.

Donations are needed to help the club deal with the current crisis and build a plan for a new museum, most likely to be on a different site. Persons willing to help may send contributions to:

P.O. Box 413, Cambridge, Ohio 43725, Attention National Cambridge Collectors, Inc. Building Fund. Checks should be made payable to NCC, Inc.

We thank you in advance for any help in any way, shape or form you can provide. Once museum relocation plans are finalized, a specific fund raising campaign will be created.

Without the assistance of the volunteers in Cambridge, we would be in a worse position than we are. All members of NCC and the glass community at large owe them a big debt of gratitude. We have sustained heavy losses through this natural tragedy but we are most fortunate that all of our people are safe (many other people were not so fortunate) and that the glass collection is much safer than earlier feared. If you have any questions or comments, please let us know through our website and we will attempt to use this site as an ongoing communication medium with members and friends to keep them updated as events unfold.

<http://www.cambridgeglass.org>

(reprinted with permission from the Museum's home page on the internet.)

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Another year has hurried past us in a flurry of glass activities. (I believe this glass collecting is beginning to catch on, don't you?) We will have to work harder to make sure the trend continues. At age 66, NAGC certainly has played a large part in this growth.

One of the strengths of our organization is its diversity of interests. We can see members' English wines in Singapore; pattern flint glass in Hawaii, Seattle and Maine; cut glass in San Francisco and New York State; Tiffany in New Jersey and New York City; Studio glass in California, Pittsburgh and Florida; non-flint patterns in Oklahoma, and Toronto; Mt. Washington in Texas and Massachusetts; bottles and art glass in New Orleans; private libraries of books on glass in New Hampshire and Massachusetts; art glass in Maryland, D.C. and Arizona; depression and 20th century factories in Chicago, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Washington State. Need I go on?

Our founders recognized a trait innate in all of us; a passion for collecting. They also realized that all of us, though focusing on a single subject, need the freedom to explore individual interests. As you can see, we've carried the banner well. With the millennium approaching, we plan to carry on this legacy.

As collections mature along with their collectors, the question arises concerning the dispersal of these treasures after the family has exercised their prerogatives. The subject of estate planning is generally neglected yet important; perhaps discussing it in an open forum would be valuable. Our Founders Chapter had a short program for their October 7th morning meeting posing this query and received many thoughtful answers and suggested solutions. For example: public libraries and regional museums offer donation possibilities. Collections need to be catalogued, and their appraisals kept up to date. Could this be a New Years' resolution in the making?

Warm wishes for successful collecting in 1999.

Ellen Roberts,
SHADYDR@aol.com

NAGC Web Site

The National American Glass Club is out there with its own web site via AT&T Worldnet. Our site offers detailed information about the club and, beyond the Home Page, there are nine others with information for a variety of club activities and benefits. Throughout the site's pages are illustrations of glass representing but a fraction of NAGC's glass interests.

Home page -

As the name implies, it is the main page and opens first when entering the club's web address (URL). The Home page contains a basic statement about our organization plus links to Glass Collecting, Glass Events and six others indicated at the bottom of this and succeeding pages as follows:

Glass Collecting -

Clicking on this highlighted entry brings up Pretty Glass Pictures, a pictorial review of glass from members' collections, revealing the diversity the club's interests. Members are encouraged to forward clear digital images for inclusion in this gallery. They must be in .gif or .jpg format and may be e-mailed or sent via USPS on a floppy disc to the webmaster. Most major film processors offer digital images of your photos on a 3.5 in. floppy disc in the above formats along with regular processing for an additional 1/4 per 24 images.

Glass Events -

This highlighted entry links to a chronological listing of glass activities hosted by NAGC, its chapters, members, and a variety of organizations. Individual and organizational members are strongly encouraged to forward material for this page to the NAGC Webmaster, e-mail or USPS. Every attempt is made to provide timely information. Current and upcoming glass events will be posted as soon as possible.

Chapters -

This button links to a listing of all the chapters of the NAGC plus their locations. The Chapters page will be updated soon to contain the names of their contact persons.

Membership -

This page details information about membership in NAGC, dues for a variety of membership categories

plus benefits are given. For convenience, the page links to a blank membership application form which can be filled out, printed at your computer and mailed to the Membership Chair via USPS.

People -

The People page lists the officers, directors and chairpersons of the National American Glass Club and the positions they hold. Regional representatives are also included.

Publications -

The Publications page concerns the material published by the NAGC. Described are *The Glass Club Bulletin*, *The Glass Shards*, *The Membership Directory* and *The Glass Club Bulletin Index*. The tables of contents for the two most recent issues of the *Bulletin* are included plus that of the latest issue of *Glass Shards*. In addition, the full index to the *Glass Club Bulletin* is now on line via a link from this page to the Index Page, on which article titles, authors, etc. may be searched by keywords using your browser's find utility. The index page is current with the latest *Bulletin* issue.

Seminars -

The Seminars page details information including programs, speakers, topics, etc. of the NAGC Seminar series. Past and future seminar locations are included.

Other Sites -

This page consists of a collection of links to other glass-related web sites and includes links to those of our members. Over ninety links are provided in the following categories:

- Museums
- Schools and Workshops
- Glass factories and Glassmakers
- Glass Study Groups, Associations
- Members' web sites
- General

For those of our members who have, or are planning to get out there on the Internet, be sure to visit us at:

<http://home.att.net/~NAGC>

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

Francis N. Allen, Webmaster
NAGC@worldnet.att.net

Glass Calendar

(Confirmation of dates and schedules advised)

January 4 - Feb. 6 1999

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning, NY. (607) 974-6467. The Studio of the Corning Museum will hold 4 sessions of one-week intensive classes in glassblowing, lampworking, kiln casting, and more. Classes available for both the beginner and advanced glassblowers. Please call for registration information. Spring sessions available from March 1- May 3.

January 19 - May 9, 1999

MSC FORSYTH CENTER GALLERIES, PO Box J-1, College Station, TX 77844. A *Rich and Lasting Beauty: Masterpieces From the American Cut Glass Association National Collection*. See article on page 4. Check out the center's web site <http://www.msc.tamu.edu/services/forsyth> or call (409) 845-9251.

January 23 - March 7, 1999

WHEATON VILLAGE, Millville, NJ, at the Museum of American Glass. *Curator's Choice Exhibition*, showcasing 12 master works from the collection. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10am-5pm. The museum is located at Exit 26, Rte. 55, Millville, NJ. Call (800) 998-4552, ext. 2746 or 2747 for further details.

January 28, 1999

BERGSTROM-MAHLER MUSEUM, Neenah, WI (920) 751-4658. *An Evening with Paul Stankard*. The renown artist will be discussing his work and techniques.

February 5 - 7, 1999

KNIFE REST COLLECTOR'S CONFERENCE, St. Augustine, Fla. (925) 846-5297. Sponsored by the Knife Rests of Yesterday & Today. See article on page 5.

February 6 & 7, 1999

Mid-Winter Antiques & Collectibles Show & Sale, WHEATON VILLAGE, Millville, NJ at the Museum of American Glass. Located at the museum Exit 26, Rte. 55, Millville, NJ. Call (800) 998-4552. 10am-5pm each day. Over 60 quality dealers from the mid-Atlantic states.

March 1999

CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS, One Museum Way, Corning NY. (607) 974-6467. *Treasures From The Corning Museum of Glass*. International exhibition of masterpieces from the museum's permanent collection which tell the story of glass from its beginnings to the present.

April 10, 1999

New home found for the GLASS COLLECTOR'S SHOW. Summit Hall Farm Park Activity Center on S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg, MD., one mile from the Shady Grove Rd. exit from Rte. 270 and is accessible by public transportation. More dealer space available. Call Clarice & Bob Rolfe at (301) 774-7168.

April 17 - 18, 1999

The 23rd COLLECTOR'S GLASS SHOW & SALE sponsored by the Westchester Glass Club, a Chapter of NAGC, will be held at the Greenwich Civic Center in Old Greenwich, CT. See article on page 5 for more detail. Joan Kaiser will be there to autograph copies of the newly published Volume 5 of *"The Glass Industry of Sandwich."*

April 23 - 25, 1999

44th ANNUAL SPRING EASTERN NATIONAL ANTIQUES SHOW & SALE, at State Farm Show Bldg., Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA. (610) 437-5534. 300 national dealers, with a strong emphasis on glass.

May 6 - 8, 1999

Glass Seminar of NAGC, St. Paul Minn. At the Radisson Inn of St. Paul. See article on page 6 for more details.

May 21 - 30, 1999

MSC FORSYTH CENTER GALLERIES, PO Box J-1, College Station, TX 77844. (409) 845-9251. Art & glass tour to England, Scotland & Ireland. Please call Timothy Novak for details.

May 29 - Aug. 8, 1999

BRANDY WINE RIVER MUSEUM, Rte. 1 & Rte. 100, Chadds Ford, PA. 19317 (610) 388-2700. *Glass Paperweights From the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum*. Over 170 pieces from the early 19th Century to contemporary pieces are on view. brandywinemuseum.org

July 16 - 18, 1999

Creative Glass Center of America at WHEATON VILLAGE, Millville, NJ, at the Museum of American Glass. *GlassWeekend '99: An International Symposium & Exhibition of Contemporary Glass*. Displays from 200 glass artists, special demonstrations, hands-on glassmaking, lectures and panel discussions. Call (800) 998-4552, ext. 2739 for further details.

September 1999

ROCKWELL MUSEUM, Corning, NY (607) 937-5386. *Master of Glass: Frederick Carder (1863-1963)*. A comprehensive, critical survey of the famous glassmaker's achievements.

GlassWeekend '99

July 16-18 are the dates for the International Symposium & Exhibition of Contemporary Glass, presented by the Creative Glass Center of America and the Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass.

15 internationally respected art galleries will present the current glass work from 200 artists. There will be special demonstrations by glass artists Bertil Vallien and Stephen Powell, and lectures and panel discussions by glass professionals. For interested registrants, there is an opportunity for hands-on glassmaking too.

Please call the Creative Glass Center of America at Wheaton Village at (800) 998-4552, or write to them at 1501 Glasstown Road, Millville, NJ., 08332-1566.

Please, Please, Please

We need your chapter's news. This newsletter is our main connection to each other and it needs your contributions. Update us on events, fund-raising, or transitions of local chapter members. Anyone can send in information, not just chapter coordinators. Send to the address on page 6.

visit our web page:
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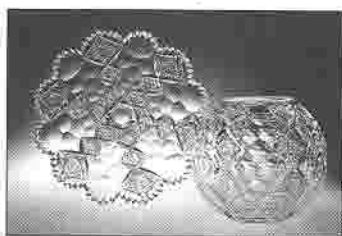
Cut Glass Exhibit

For the first time, the MSC Forsyth Center Galleries of the Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, have drawn from the American Cut Glass Association National Collection. The exhibit, *A Rich and Lasting Beauty: Masterpieces of The Cut Glass Association National Collection*, will be on display from January 19 - May 9, 1999.

American rich cut, or brilliant cut glass is some of the most appealing, eye-catching glass ever produced. Made by American, English, Bohemian, and sometimes French and German craftsmen between 1876 and 1920, cut glass was a status symbol and object of beauty for a quickly rising American middle class.

A collection of cut glass which did not compliment the American and English art glass that graced Bill and Irma Runyon's home in North Dallas, was accepted readily

by the Galleries as an opportunity to show this important glass form;



**Rose Bowl with Underplate
Queens Pattern
Signed T.G. Hawkes c.1900-1915**

this being accomplished through a five-year series of loans from members of the Lone Star Chapter of the American Cut Glass Association. Through this Texas affiliation, the volunteer leaders of the national ACGA and Texas A&M University developed an acquaintance and a strong working relationship.

This relationship has now been formally cemented by making the Galleries home to the new, national

ACGA glass collections. The idea of an ACGA collection had been the dream of ACGA leaders for many years, but the staggering cost to establish, staff and maintain a full-time museum had always kept the dream from coming to fruition.

A Rich and Lasting Beauty will be the first of many shows and scholarly efforts drawn from the ACGA collections which will continue to support new projects as more glass is acquired. This exhibit will certainly have a national appeal, especially to the 2,500 ACGA members in all fifty states and overseas.

The MSC Forsyth Center can be reached by phone at (409) 845-9251 or visit the web site, <http://www.msc.tamu.edu/services/forsyth>

Barlow-Kaiser Sandwich Glass

The fifth and final volume of the series *The Glass Industry in Sandwich*, by Raymond E. Barlow and Joan E. Kaiser, will be released in February 1999 completing a 22 year team effort. Volume 5 places special emphasis on well-documented Sandwich glass objects drawn from numerous private and museum collections. It presents 283 color photos and complete chapters on cut, engraved, and etched glass; an assortment of household and commercial ware; bottles (including pungents, commercial colognes, and perfumes). The chapter entitled "A General Assortment of Glassware" takes its name from Deming Jarves' 1825 advertisement of items for sale at the company's general store. Household and commercial necessities were made from glass batches that did not meet the high standard required for engraving. An example is the "French ink" set pictured in the c.1874 Boston & Sandwich Glass Company catalog.

Volume 5 also includes a supplement to Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4. The supplemental objects were

brought to the authors' attention during on-going research but after publishing deadlines. Some have never been seen by the public and may never again be photographed for publication. Objects include extremely rare lamps, candlesticks, candelabras, and several pieces manufactured by the



**Pressed Ink Set
c.1874**

short lived Sandwich Co-operative Glass Company. Histories include the Smith family; gilder William Smith and his sons, referred to as the Smith Brothers; and a roster of personnel that documents the birth, death, place of employment, and occupation of 1,500 people who worked in a Sandwich glass or glass related industry. A master index of all five volumes is included.

Orders may be placed by contacting Barlow-Kaiser Publishing Company, P.O. Box 1180, Sandwich, MA. 02563, or call at (508) 833-0166.

Raymond Barlow Recipient of Achievement Award



**Ray Barlow receives his award in
Sandwich, Massachusetts**

Richard A. Lovis, president of the Sandwich Historical Society, presented an award of engraved glass to Raymond E. Barlow at this year's Glass Show Reception. Mrs. Grace Barlow standing at the far right, watches the presentation along with Mr. Barlow's daughter Kathy and grandson Jeffrey. As he read a compelling speech about "Gramps," Jeffrey's words brought tears to the eyes of the assembled crowd.

The Recognition Achievement Award was given to Ray because of his lifetime contribution to the study of Sandwich glass. His 5 volumes on the Sandwich glass industry, coauthored with Joan E. Kaiser, have become the definitive books on the subject, read by scholars and collectors alike.

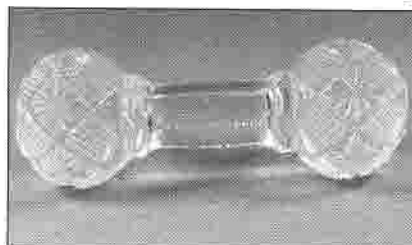
Knife Rests Conference

The organization, Knife Rests of Yesterday & Today, is sponsoring a conference in St. Augustine, Florida, on February 5-7, 1999. Included in this warm winter break will be lectures, exhibits of knife rests, a tour of the Lightner Museum and antique shopping. Registration information may be obtained by calling (925) 846-5297.

What are knife rests and how did they become used in the home? The first knife rests were made in Europe by the porcelain factories of Germany, France and Belgium during the early 19th Century. They had been made in patterns to match the table settings. Their original use as a utensil began with the need to avoid soiling the linens once the plates were removed after the meal and there was no where to rest the knife.

Knife rests in cut glass became very

desirable at the time of the brilliant cut glass period of the Victorian era, 1850-1910. Tables were set with every



Westmoreland knife rest

manner of cut glass, such as napkin rings, bowls, vases, celery vases, and open salts. Knife rests migrated to Britain and the United States with the owners and workers of glass and porcelain factories. These utilitarian objects were made in many materials and many combinations, such as silver, jade, wood, ivory and even plastic.

Chihuly Studio Glass

For a limited time, a hand-blown glass *Basket* by Dale Chihuly is available at the Toledo Museum of Art. This beautiful and unique studio piece called *Coral Basket with Golden Wrap* will be produced for collectors with each order. It is an exquisite representation of one of his earliest series, replicating the wavering woven forms of old Northwest Coast Indian baskets.

An example of the Basket Studio Edition is currently on display at the Collector's Corner shop at the Museum until January 31, 1999.



The price is \$3,000, and a large percentage of the proceeds goes to the Museum. For further information, please call the Collector's Corner at (419) 255-8000, ext. 325.

New Book on Frederick Carder

Frederick Carder and Steuben Glass: American Classics is the definitive reference book on the life and works of Frederick Carder, a pioneer of modern art-glass manufacture. The book's groundbreaking critical essays reveal the significance of Carder's contributions. Lavishly illustrated, it includes nearly 500 color photos of Carder's work, including many newly discovered pieces, and over 700 black and white images. It was published by Schiffer Publishing Ltd. Copies can be ordered by contacting the Rockwell Museum, (607) 937-5386.

The book was written by the world's leading authority on Carder and Steuben glass, Thomas P. Dimitroff. Essays on specific facets

of Carder's career were contributed by Charles R. Hajdamach, Robert F. Rockwell III, and Jane Shadel Spillman. Two decades of planning, research, and writing went into the project.

Much work has gone into researching previously unpublished information, including the early years of Carder's glassmaking career, Carder's later studio period, previously unpublished drawings, and recently discovered objects from Carder's brilliant body of work. The book provides a critical look at Carder's place in the history of the art of glass and offers a definitive picture of the man and his work.

visit NAGC web page:
<http://home.att.net/~NAGC>

There is much history in these little gems. Although they have been collected for years, they still can be found for reasonable prices at garage sales and flea markets. Please join us and enjoy the Florida sun in February! If you can't make the conference, please consider subscribing to our newsletter.

To subscribe, please contact:
Beverly L. Ales
495 Linden Way
Pleasanton, CA. 94566-6879
(925) 846-5297

Cost is for 1 year, 6 issues: \$20.

Westchester Glass Show

The 23rd Collectors-Glass Show & Sale will take place at the Greenwich Civic Center in Old Greenwich, CT. Hours will be on Saturday, April 17th from 10am to 5pm, and on Sunday, April 18th from 10am to 4pm. 60 well established dealers will be on hand offering a large variety of glassware.

There will be glass repair, free glass identification and an ongoing demonstration of glass cutting. Mr. Louis O. St. Aubin, Jr. lecturer and dealer, will give a presentation on *The Art Glass of the Mt. Washington Glass Company from 1870 to 1900*.

Please call (973) 763-4524 for more information.

Readers Bid & Ask

This column is intended for individuals who would like to reach others who have an interest in their glass or have glass to sell. This is not intended to be an area for professionals to advertise.

-from Koos Egtberts

Lingewijk 8
NL 3831 LG Leusden
The Netherlands
egtglass@xs4all.nl

My family and I have a collection of glass, specializing in cobalt blue bottles, drinking glasses, etc. We are extending our collection and wish to include fire extinguishers, targetballs and shot glasses. We are also interested in old books on glass and glass history.

We would welcome any questions readers might have on glass from the Netherlands. We can also direct you to other a reliable sources for information.

J. Anthony Stout 1933 - 1998

We are saddened by the loss, this past September, of our dear friend and member J. Anthony Stout. Mr. Stout was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts in June, 1933, received a BA and MA in Psychology from Harvard University which lead to his professional career in public health administration and human development. Tony, as he preferred to be called, also had a scintillating career in the arts - no doubt inspired by his mother, an expert in ceramics. He had the distinction of establishing Washington's first museum of African art, no doubt due to his studies in Africa while on a grant from the Ford Foundation. Glass, however, became Tony's passion - he amassed an outstanding collection of American, Anglo-Irish and other continental glass. His expertise in glass was well known throughout the NAGC, and in other venues such as the Corning Museum of Glass, where he was a Fellow, and at the Jones Museum of Glass and Ceramics, where he served on the Board of Directors. Tony will be missed, on the lecture circuit, at glass events where he gladly shared his knowledge, and especially at meetings of the Bakewell Chapter of the NAGC, one of its most faithful and ardent supporters.

The National
American Glass Club
Box 8489
Silver Spring, MD 20907



visit NAGC web page:
<http://home.att.net/~NAGC>

**NEXT ISSUE'S
DEADLINE
MAY 1, 1999**

Annual Glass Seminar

Two is better than one, they say, and two it is - two cosmopolitan cities: St. Paul and Minneapolis are our destination for May 7 & 8, 1999. Two days packed with lectures and activities plus an optional trip on May 6 to The Mall of America (awesome), will keep your minds stimulated and intrigued.

Light will shine on eight dynamic speakers and their subjects: the secrets of Fenton Glass; rare Pomona glass; the work of David Lonquist; local bottles and artifacts - destination - Hollywood; unchanged Eastern European methods of beadmaking; glass components in contemporary architecture and, of course, Minnesota's heritage - Swedish glass.

A savory Smörgåsbord at the American Swedish Institute follows the viewing of two international glass exhibits - select pieces offered for purchase.

The exquisite stained glass windows created by Bancel LaFarge and Rowan LeCompte can be seen when we tour stately Summit Avenue, the pride of St. Paul. Much to see and do with never a dull moment. See you there! The speakers are:

Andria Bloom - Local Artist discusses *David Lonquist*.

Howard Seuffer - *Fenton Glass Factory: How it works*.

Dr. Beatrice Smith - Noted author & botanical artist: *Pomona Glass* (rare)

Steven Ketcham - Bottle collector, former president of the Historical Bottle Association.

Shari Maxson Hopper - Noted bead designer & scholar.

James Carpenter - Noted architect and glass artist.

Derek Ostergard - Associate Director of Bard Graduate Center.

Dr. Claire Selkurt - *The Swedish Institute*.

ATTENTION READERS!

The editor for the *Bulletin* is changing. Bonnie Bledsoe-Fuchs has done a wonderful job as editor, and we all thank her very much. We wish her well with her future in North Carolina. In the interim, Kyle Husfloen will be the acting editor, and is accepting submissions at 413 South Prospect, Galena, IL. 61036. The *Bulletin* is a valuable and much treasured part of NAGC. Contributions from the membership is vital and appreciated. The next issue of the *Bulletin* is arriving shortly, but please consider contributing an article for subsequent issues of this important publication.

Also...

The next deadline for the *Glass Shards* will be MAY 1, 1999. Submit by mail to: Alice Walsh, Editor, *Glass Shards*, 11 Bentwood Street, Foxborough Massachusetts 02035 or reach us through e-mail at: as@practice-corp.com



First Class

