New England Carnival Glass Association



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Meeting Highlights...Look Inside For More!





Millersburg Courthouse Bowl in Amethyst

APRIL MEETING IN WELLS, MAINE

Show & Tell Theme

FLOWERS & NEW FINDS

The President's Newsletter

It's been a busy time for Kris and I, as winter is coming to an end soon...I say that "soon", but in Rhode Island it just snowed again on March 28th. I'm hoping that the snow will be gone when we head up to Maine for our Spring Fling...fingers crossed. We did not have a February meeting due to a snowstorm so the meeting was cancelled. So our theme for the Spring Fling is fitting....FLOWERS!

Saturday night, our restaurant of choice will be Hobbs Harbourside in Wells, Maine. Check out their website and view their menu at <u>http://www.hobbsharborside.com</u>. Dinner is reserved for 6:30 p.m. We should have a good turnout and see some new faces. Thanks, Norm, for making the reservations.

Brian Grainger will be bringing some glass to "swap" or will be available to purchase. So bring some of your own glass to swap or your pennies.

For those that don't know, the schedule is as follows. Members arrive anytime Saturday afternoon...usually after 2:00/3:00 p.m. and around 4:00/4:30 p.m., we get together in the meeting room for snack and drinks. Sometimes we'll see some glass, new finds if anyone "finds" anything while they were driving up to the hotel. Out to dinner and more conversation after dinner. We get together at 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning for Show & Tell and the meeting follows. That's it!

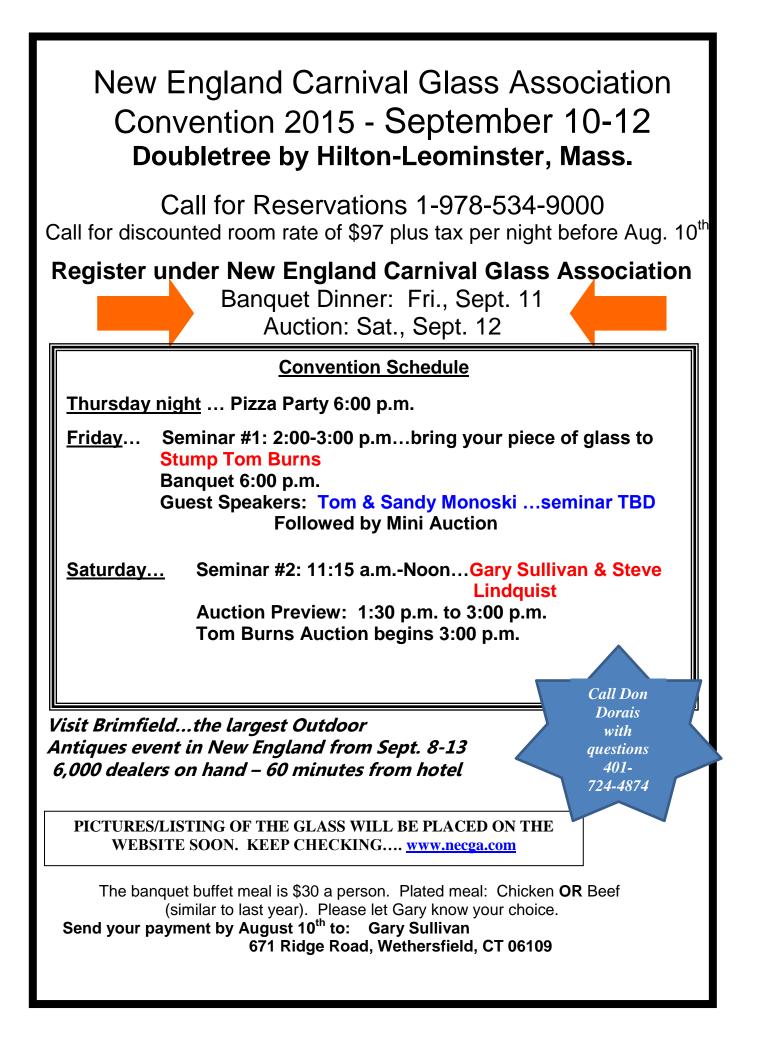
Kris and I took a trip with Gary Sullivan and Steve Lindquist down to Hagerstown, MD for Tom's auction on March 20 & 21. Had a great time and got to visit with Isaac Sommershein, Doug Siska, Bill Mizell and Steve Grayson...all have had some serious life threatening health issues that they all came through and they are slowly getting their strength back. Came back with a few pieces so we'll bring them along with us. Hope to see you on the 18th!

Sincerely, President Don Dorais



Don't forget...

SPRING FLING HAMPTON INN & SUITES 900 POST ROAD WELLS, ME 04090 SAT., APRIL 18 & SUN., APRIL 19



FROM OUR NECGA CONVENTION SPEAKERS.... We are Tom and Sandy

Monoski. Sandy and I started collecting carnival glass when she was 13 and I was 17. We saw this beautiful glass in my aunt Helen Kelly's china closet. We asked her about it and she began to tell us the stories about where she found it. We were hooked. Aunt Helen would take us to auctions where she would say, "I'll go as high as \$5.00 if I really want something! But most of the time I get it for a buck or two." She did not drive, so we started to take her to garage sales and estate sales. She taught us how to get up early and how beat the rush for "the good stuff". She had picker friends who would bring her treasures they had found on the road. One day a guy brought her a bag full of miscellaneous glass and a few pieces of marigold carnival. Dishes and vases etc. She gave him some money for the bag and they sat and talked, laughed and swapped stories while they drank coffee. Just before he left, he reached into his pocket and handed her a purple grape and cable perfume. It sparkled with electric color. He said, "Oh, and I found this little thing. You can have it. It's so small it can't be worth much."

We became pickers for her. I will never forget walking into her house with some unknown piece that we had found. She would always take to her favorite perch, a well-worn deco style, chrome and red vinyl 1950's kitchen chair. Then, with legs crossed high and tight, right elbow propped on the Formica-top kitchen table, her wrist at 90 degrees holding the ever-present cigarette and with excitement almost too much for her to control, she would chime, "Well what little treasure have ya got there!?" It was always the same melody and it sounded like a line from a familiar song. This would be followed by an hour of recalling the story of the find. Then another hour or so trying to find the piece in the 9 Hartung Carnival Glass books. Eventually she would triumphantly proclaim, "Yyyyup, here it is!" Then she would read aloud the tiny paragraph while she pressed her finger against the pencil sketch at the top of the page, almost to keep it from escaping. Her anxious anticipation and sense of discovery meant the world to me then and now.

My aunt Helen was Irish. She was full of life and feisty to boot. She always seemed to talk a little louder when excited about her glass. And her voice crackled with joy and excitement, a little hoarse from the years of smoking. She loved her family and she loved her carnival glass. I think in that order. She was never a member of a club and she had very little extra money to work with. I thought she was the richest person I knew. Today, we would call her poor. But, she was responsible for our treasured lifetime in glass collecting, along with all the laughter, excitement, scientific investigations, endless searching and many friendships that it has been our pleasure to be blessed with. My aunt Helen lived in Williamsport Pa. She had maybe 100 pieces of carnival glass when she passed away. But each one had special meaning to her. They were bookmarks in her life. Each special piece marked a page of excitement in an otherwise ordinary life of work and worry.

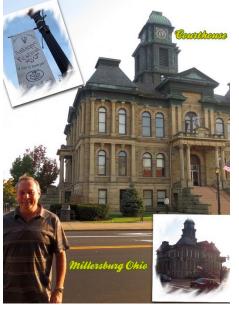
I will be talking again this September at the New England Carnival Glass Club. My talk will be about "Egyptian influences on glass" "Junk from the trunk of the car". "Road kills on the road of life." "Bookmarks and memories." The members will be listening to me ramble on about a wide variety of glass and recent finds, in my effort to inspire them to make new exciting finds of their own. What they would not have known until now is that they will be listening to my aunt Helen Kelly speaking through me from her spot in carnival glass heaven.

Tom Monoski

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 tri-cornered 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 you're in Millersburg.

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



The next morning was the Millersburg Auction hosted by none other than 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 Maggs 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 have seen a lot 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, thats 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 you're 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 a lot 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



Dugan and Diamond Twigs Vases by Dr. Larry Keig

Among Dugan's most sought after vases are the little Twigs. No matter what the shape, demand exceeds supply because the design and craftsmanship are so irrepressibly charming.

The Twigs pattern consists of four principal elements: (a) a supporting base, two and three-sixteenth inches in diameter, its upper surface covered with "bark," (b) three bent twigs (burly branches, really) which hold the receptacle, each twig also covered with bark, (c) a container with nine exterior smooth panels, and, with the exception of a pattern variant, (d) three spindly, barren twigs that extend up from the bolstering twigs on to the panels, each spreading to rangy four pronged vine-like twigs.

Although not as desirable, taller eight- to nine-inch Twigs bud vases are also available. They are easier to track down and less costly than the little vases. The aqua and peach opal Twigs lie somewhere between the small vases and the bud vases in height.

Standard Little Twigs

Four of the little Twigs have previously been discussed in books, newsletter articles, and online. The other two have only recently been reported. Some standard Twigs have been "whimsied" in one way or another. Two shapes are line items, two others probably lineitem derivatives, another in all likelihood a bona fide whimsey, the other presumably the proof from which all the rest were configured.



The JIP is a collector favorite.

Crimped JIP. The crimped jack-in-thepulpit vases have always attracted attention because they were so artfully created. One of two "available" shapes, they have historically been the most talked about and are arguably the most popular shape. They stand from three and one-half to four and one-fourth inches tall.

The JIPs are line items. It is unusual, although not unheard of, for a line item to have been so extensively whimsied, an inherently labor intensive process. It's no wonder, then, there aren't all that many of the JIPs around.

Non-Crimped Three-Ruffled (Tri-Cornered). Also a line item, the non-crimped threeruffled is, like the JIP, an available shape. Graceful and well-proportioned, it rarely receives the accolades it deserves. These vases range from four and one-fourth to four and one-half inches tall.



The three-ruffled rarely receives the due it deserves.

Crimped Round. Handsome



The difficult-to-come-by crimped round, above, is always an attention-getter.

Non-Crimped Round. The noncrimped round is the most basic shape, in all likelihood the proof. This is the shape that was offered to wholesalers in the April 1906 Butler Brothers sale catalog in non-iridescent opalescent glass. Extremely rare in carnival, I know of only this one. It stands four and onefourth inches tall.

and bold in concept, the crimped round might be thought of as a violet vase. A small spray of spring flowers or other pastel blossoms would complement the base color. Probably a line-item derivative, not many have been reported. They are four inches tall.

> The non-crimped round, below, is probably the proof.



The remaining shapes—two with the standard design, the other a pattern variant—are seductive because few collectors have known until now about them.



The striking spittoon shape may well be a whimsey.

Scalloped Spittoon. The mesmerizing spittoon shape is in all probability a whimsey. The one illustrated is the only one of which I am aware. It stands four and three-fourth inches tall.

This spittoon is surely more decorative than utilitarian. It would be tough for a chewer to find the mark when he (or, I suppose it could be, she) is expectorating a mouthful of muculent tobacco. On occasion, little Twigs are iridized only on the inside, with just the base color visible on the outside. Kate and Bill Lavelle's crimped round, electric on the interior, is a pretty one of these.



Some little Twigs are iridized only on the inside.

The vases illustrated above, not counting Kate and Bill's, are owned by Don and Kris Dorais. They acquired the crimped JIP, three-ruffled, and non-crimped round by way of eBay, the crimped round at the Whitley auction, and the spittoon shape and six-ruffled privately. Theirs is an awesome mini-collection.

Little Twigs Variant

The Twigs Variant pattern is different in one significant respect from standard vases. It is missing the vinelike twigs on the paneled portion of the receptacle.

The variant's absent element has led me to believe its mold was a prototype soon replaced by the more elaborately designed standard Twigs. It is probable it, like the other, was produced circa 1906, just before the non-iridescent opal vases were put on the market. If that's the case, this earlier mold was set aside for a time, brought to life, perhaps by accident, three or four years later for a minuscule carnival run.

The base color of the only Twigs Variant I know of is lighter than standard vases, lavender rather than amethyst. Its iridescence is a comely, even pastel.

Arnold and Dorothy Snell, owners of the lovely, approximately four-inch tall Twigs Variant, bought it at the Southern California convention auction in 2003. There, Arnold recalls, they somehow wrestled it away from a well-known vase collector. Before that, it had been in the Rabon and Melpha Hall collection in Kentucky. The Halls specialized in small vases and hat shapes.



There are no twigs on the paneled portion of the Twigs Variant.

Non-Crimped Six-

Ruffled. The six-ruffled, likely a line-item derivative, stands four and onefourth inches tall. It is an elegant and refined shape. The most recent shape to be reported, it had been in an in an upstate New York collection for years before changing hands a few months ago.



The six-ruffled is an especially attractive shape.

Standard small Twigs have been confirmed only in a generic amethyst, lighter than what contemporary collectors call purple, fiery amethyst, and oxblood but darker than lavender. While some say marigold also exist, I know of none.

Iridescence ranges from electric or multicolor inside and out to, at best, marginal in quality. Many have a nasty stark steel cast. When Twigs vases sell, color counts: the best bring premium prices, the mediocre modest sums.

Reproduced Little Twigs

Reproductions of little Twigs are known to have been made. Photos of two Terry Crider-signed (in script, bottom of base) vases are posted at the *Carnival Glass 101* website: http://www.carnivalheaven.com/carnivalglass102/id121.htm#terry_crider_twigs_vase. The signature could, of course, be removed; errone-ously leading potential buyers to believe a vase is old. Unmarked repros may also have been made and marketed.

It looks like the Crider vases were produced from the Twigs Variant mold. It is possible Crider also got hold of the standard Twigs mold, so repros of these may be out there, too.

Twigs Bud Vases

The cylindrical Twigs bud vases—most eight to nine inches tall, a few an inch or so taller yet—are known in marigold as well as amethyst. Most of the marigold are god-awful in appearance, clear at the bottom with weak, washed-out surface color at the top. While beautiful amethyst can be found, the iridescence is frequently a ghastly gun metal or a dreadful dull gold.

The bud vases are products of the Diamond years of the plant's operation. They are illustrated in several industry publications from the early teens to 1931, the year the firm folded.

Iridescence on the bud vases often leaves much to be desired.

Pictured is the top of the base

showing the bark pattern that is found on all but the Twigs

Variant vase.



Iridized Opalescent Twigs

Dave Doty reports three aqua opal Twigs vases as having sold since 1993. According to Diane Fry, at *Carnival Glass 101*, a peach opal sold at the 2007 ACGA convention auction. In November 2014 a peach opal (maybe that same one) changed hands at a Seeck auction in Mason City, Iowa.

An aqua opal is illustrated on the Twigs page of the Doty website. The sides of the container are essentially straight up, the top scalloped. Compared to the JIP with which it is pictured, it appears to stand about six inches tall. It looks like it was made from the same or a similar mold as standard little Twigs vases, as does the peach opal that recently sold.

While slim, the vessel of the five and one-half inch tall peach opal is, in contrast to the aqua opal, more bulbous and is pulled in just below its flared and scalloped top. Its pearly opalescence is confined to the *interior* of the top. Elsewhere, the color is a shiny dark marigold. On all other peach opal Dugan and Diamond vases with which I am familiar, opalescence is found only on the *exterior*.

Many collectors doubt the opalescent vases are "old." But it is not likely anyone can say for sure what company made them or when. At present, the evidence seems circumstantial.

There are obviously those who are convinced, or want to believe, the iridized opal vases are Dugan or Diamond, as the aforementioned aqua opal sold for \$2300, \$2500, and \$2800. The peach opal brought \$2700 this past fall. In any event, these vases have sparked spirited conversations and debate as to their provenance.

When I began thinking about



This peach opal Twigs sold in November 2014 in Mason City,

this article, I had anticipated a straightforward sweep of the six little Twigs vases in the Dorais collection and the Twigs bud vases. Writing the piece became more complicated when I learned of the Snell variant (I hadn't realized its pattern was different from standard vases), the impending sale of and great interest in the peach opal, and the Crider reproductions. All of these sidetracks have made for an elucidating experience for me.

- I am grateful to Don and Kris Dorais, Kate and Bill Lavelle, and Arnold and Dorothy Snell for affording me the opportunity to showcase their glass and for repeated requests for detail. My thanks also to Neal Becker, Carl Booker, Barb Chamberlain, Greg Dilian, and Joan Doty for help along the way.
- s I am grat

Help a New Collector Learn about Carnival Glass

By Alicia Nestra

Most of my friends never heard of carnival glass or iridescent glass. I am blessed to have Dolores Sage as my Grandmother. I have been exposed to carnival glass since birth. (That's me trying to get

into my Grandma's cabinet.) My Grandmother founded the Sunshine Club, now known as Iridescent Nation, and I was one of the first members at the age of eleven. I attended my first carnival glass convention at the age of



ten. By that time I had already started a good collection of glass thanks to my Grandmother and Mom giving me some of their pieces. At several of the SSCGA conventions, all Sunshine Club members got to participate in our own auction with play money and donated pieces of glass. At one convention, I won a seven piece Orange Tree pitcher and tumblers.









Most of the carnival glass I've been given or collected are small pieces that fit in or on top of my one cabinet. Of course, I collected a lot of animal shaped glass with mice and frogs being my favorites. Ripple vases are my absolute favorite carnival glass pieces. I won an award at a convention for my "Ripples on the Florida Beach" display entry.

I am now an adult collector and represent the future collectors of carnival glass. I have introduced many of my friends to carnival glass **and now it's your turn to do your part.** Learn more about the Iridescent Nation club and how your younger family members can become members. Give a piece of glass to a young person to help them get started. Donate money to Iridescent Nation to help cover the costs of mailing free glass and books to each member. <u>www.iridescentnation.com</u>

Thank you to all of you who helped me get my start and encouraged me to continue with this fascinating hobby!

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Mid-Atlantic Carnival Glass Club Jamboree

October 22-24th 2015 Featuring the collection of Greg Dilian Ramada Plaza Hotel 1718 Underpass Way Hagerstown, Md. 301-797-2500 A Tom Burns Auction Contacts: Steve Grayson <u>sgrayson@copper.net</u> Beth Margerum bethmargerum@comcast.net

Club membership \$10 p/yr. via email Contact:<u>bethmargerum@comcast.net</u>

	NE	CGA		NECGA	
Treasury Report			Convention Repo	rt	
For the period January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015				September 2015	
Openi	ng Balance - January 1	., 2015	\$6,893.45		
Revenues:			Convention Revenue:		
1	Dues	54.00		Banquet Meals (0.00
I	Fees	100.00		Mini Auction (0.00
Convention		(600.00)		Card Game/Donations (0.00
(Other	0.00		Tom Burns - Auction	0.00
Total I	Revenue		(446.00)	Total Convention Revenue	0.00
Expen	ises:			Convention Expenses:	
I	Postage	28.56		Hotel Costs/Meals 600	0.00
	nk/Paper/Envelopes	0.00		Guest Speaker Fee (0.00
9	Supplies	0.00		Pizza Party (0.00
1	Web site	0.00		Room Display Awards (0.00
I	Hall Rental	270.00		Hospitality Room (0.00
1	Printer	0.00			
Total I	Expense		298.56	Total Convention Expenses:	600.00
Increa	se /(Decrease) in Fun	d Balance	(744.56)		
Endin	g Fund Balance - Marcl	h 31. 2015	\$6,148.89	Net Convention Profit / (Loss)	(\$600.00)

UPCOMING TOM BURNS AUCTIONS:

Saturday, April 18th, Pittsburgh, PA, Saturday, May 9th, Bath, NY (non-carnival auction), Saturday, June 6th in Bath, NY and Friday, July 31st, Hagerstown, MD

New England Carnival Glass Association Membership Application										
Dues: \$ 18.00 per ye Name	ar per household.	(Membership renewal is du	ue on your a	anniversary date)						
Address										
City	StateZ	Zip Code								
Telephone #	Email ac	ddress:								
Send application form and dues (U.S. funds) to:Gary Sullivan,671 Ridge Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109Membership includes, bi-monthly meetings, bulletins and all functions and outings. If you would like the bulletin emailed to you (vs. mail), please let us know on this form. Make checks payable to N.E.C.G.A.Email Mail										

Calendar Listings for 2015

<u>April 17-18, 2015 – Tom Burns Auction</u> Carnival Glass Auction, Embassy Suites, Coraopolis, PA

<u>April 22-26, 2015</u> Heart of America Carnival Glass Association Convention and Auction, Kansas City, MO, Jim Seeck Auction

May 6-8, 2015 Keystone Carnival Glass Club Convention and Auction, Grantville, PA

<u>June 6, 2015 – Tom Burns Auction</u> Carnival Glass Auction, Bath Fire Department, Bath, NY

June 17-20, 2015 American Carnival Glass Convention and Auction, Wroda Auction Center, Greenville, OH, Jim Wroda Auction

<u>July 31, 2015 – Tom Burns Auction</u> Ramada Plaza Hotel, Hagerstown, MD

<u>August 19-22, 2015 – WWW.CGA</u> <u>Annual Convention - Jim Seeck Auction</u> Best Western Airport Inn and Conference Center, 6815 W Kellogg (US 54), Wichita, KS, 67209 Phone: (316) 942-5600

<u>Sept. 10-12, 2015</u> New England Carnival Glass Convention and Auction, Tom Burns Auction, Leominster, Mass.