

Peacock at the Fountain ice blue seven-piece punch set, \$12,000



Millersburg Gay Nineties green pitcher, one of two known, \$13,000  
amethyst seven piece set, \$2,100



Birmingham Age Herald amethyst bowl, \$2,200

Blue Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument, \$14,000



Peacock at the Fountain lime green punch bowl with one cup, \$6,000



Cambridge Inverted Feather marigold tankard pitcher, \$1,3000

Northwood ice green Grape Arbor tankard pitcher, \$5,500

Fenton J.N. Ledford/Hearts and Vine marigold advertising plate, \$5,750

Northwood sapphire Embroidered Mums plate, \$7,500

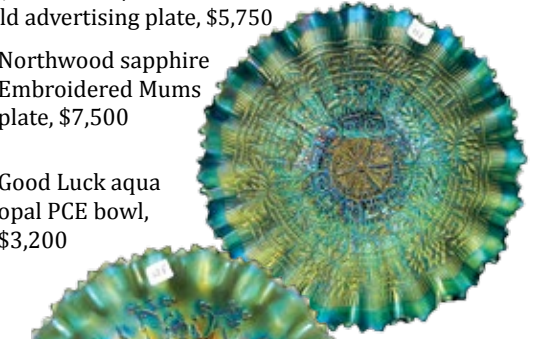
Good Luck aqua opal PCE bowl, \$3,200



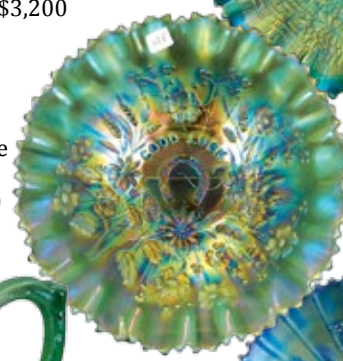
Fenton Lily of the Valley blue six-piece water set, \$4,750



Fenton ice green Orange Tree Trunk plate, \$12,500



Northwood Good Luck ice blue plate with ribbed back, \$5,500

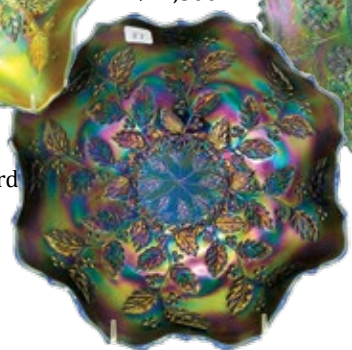


Frolicking Bears green pitcher, \$26,000 and tumbler, \$4,000

Only known Fenton aqua-opal ruffled bowl, \$16,000



Dugan Farmyard purple square bowl, \$6,000



Fenton blue opal ruffled Holly bowl, \$2,1000



Northwood lime green opal Rose Show plate, \$3,000

Northwood marigold on custard Rose Show plate, \$3,750



Northwood ice green Wild Strawberry bowl, \$1,500

# Scarab paperweight and lamp shade

■ By Jerry & Carol Curtis



Recently the WWW.CGA had a discussion on insects in carnival glass. It made me stop and consider the various carnival pieces in our collection that features insects.

We have insects on our Northwood Butterfly Bon-bons, Fenton's Butter-

flies Bon-bons, Butterfly and Berry vases, two styles of Honey Bee Pots, Peacock & Urn bowls and compotes, Millersburg Trout and Fly bowl, Hatpins, and this Scarab [Beetle] paperweight. This article will feature Tiffany's Scarab lamp shade and paperweight.

There are three variations of the Scarab that I have personally seen and inspected. There is a flat base, a hollowed out base, and a concave base that is hollow but not to the extreme depth of the lamp shade.

We have owned two Scarab paperweights found in different shops and on separate visits with our daughter's family in Oregon. Since we had two of them, we gave one to our daughter and son-in-law thinking it to be a paperweight and not even considering a lamp shade as a possibility. Since giving the shade to them, I have learned the one I gave them is also a paperweight since the two grooves in the ends are still intact. It too is identical to ours having the deep indentation and not hollowed out to the depth of the lamp shade. Following is a close comparison of the paperweight and the lamp shade.



The Scarab on the left is the lamp shade from our neighbor's Tiffany lamp. Notice the absence of the deep depression as is on the scarab to the right. Also notice at the bottom of the lamp shade the cut-out for the lamp mount has been removed but remains on our Scarab



Now look at the undersides of each. The top is from our neighbor's Tiffany lamp and you can see the notch has been cut away. On our Scarab, half of the notch on the inside has been removed, indicating to me the flexibility of the design was planned so it could be used for two different functions. The shade weighs 14 ounces and the paperweight is 18 ounces indicating the shade used 4 ounces less of the molten glass than the paperweight.

The same mold may have been used with a different plunger depending on whether a run of lamp shades or paperweights was being produced. Less molten glass was needed when a run of shades was made. The prominent depression on the paperweight's exterior is a bit of a mystery but may have been an unwanted result due to the temperature of the glass.

The Scarab belonging to our next-door neighbor is a shade for her Tiffany lamp. Her Scarab is almost identical to ours with two significant differences. The depression on the back [top] of our paperweight is deep into the glass whereas the lamp shade has no depression. Except for the depression and cutout slot, the exterior of the paperweight and lamp shade are identical except for color. The lamp shade is a different green color than the paperweight. The paperweight has much better iridescence than the lamp shade.

Upon turning them over to examine the underside, there is another significant difference. Our Scarab has a concave base. The neighbor's Scarab has been hollowed out to accommodate a light bulb. I have seen a couple of Scarabs at various conventions that have a flat base. I was told a company in California produced the flat-based Scarabs.

■ Continued on next page

I would be the first to admit that I often refer to price guides to double check certain pieces that I have not familiarized myself with. That being said, I have also learned that they are good to a point, but definitely not the last word pertaining to the value of a piece of glass.

There are several things to consider when placing a value on the glass that you are considering, including condition, iridescence, and rarity, and your desire to own this particular piece. Of the above, I would place first and foremost, your desire to own it. As I have often heard from, fellow collectors, it needs to “speak to you”.

Rarity would be what I would place as second; at that point I can be pretty forgiving for damage when there are less than four or five known, and even more so when it is beautiful.

These price guides reflect in cases, what the piece has sold for, but most often does not represent damage, color, or rarity, neither does it represent the conditions of the sale, i.e. who was there, who was not, nor does it represent where it was sold at (sometimes these sales

are not in the most favorable location for a crowd to get to). Taking the whole picture into account, I think all things concerning that piece be considered.

I love carnival glass and have collected it for years. That being said, I am very serious with my collecting, which I would think everyone is, and I do my best to assess all the facts pertaining to the glass that I am looking at.

I would never say, “They paid too much for that piece of glass.”

After all, the final value that day for that piece of glass is what the last two bidders were willing to pay for it, in other words they established the price, and I respect their judgement.

No one knows it all about Carnival Glass, and in my opinion if you do, wow, are you ever asking for an education. Simply said, I do not know it all nor have I ever met anyone who does.

The diversity of collections reflects the diversity of the collectors, and that is one reason I would suggest to view all of them you can. They are the “gardens of glass” that folks have put together and it reflects the wonderful group of people who love our hobby. ■



## The value of price guides

By Gary Heavin



Here is a picture of our neighbor's Tiffany Desk Lamp with Green Scarab Shade.

Attempts to find a complete lamp with a Scarab shade for sale resulted in finding one that had been offered for \$144 but long out of stock with an added footnote of not knowing when it would be available. I did find a green Scarab shade for sale on eBay, with no bids, and a buy-it-now price of \$2200! Good luck to the

seller but I would say it will end up back on his display shelf.

Paperweight or Lamp Shade, the Scarab is a beautiful piece of carnival glass that I would consider worthy of sitting alongside other glass in your display case. I would not venture to say they are rare but do believe they are rather scarce.

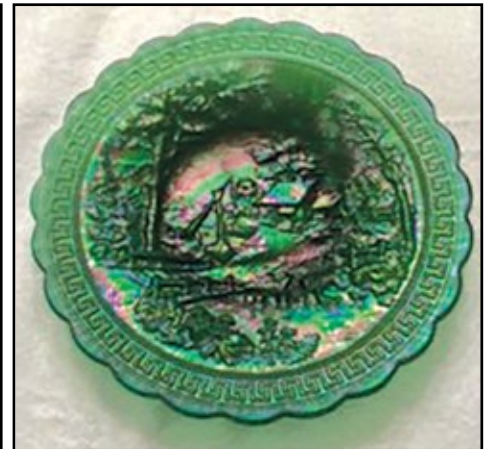
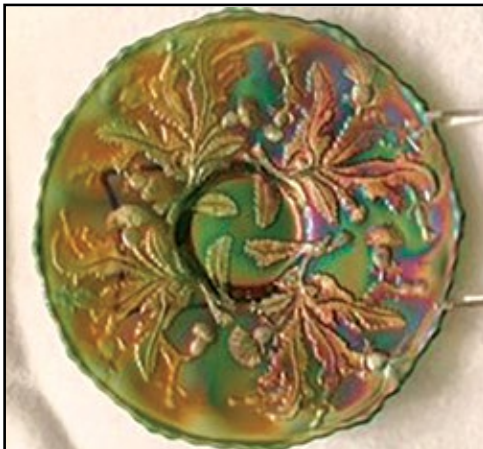
Now, a word of caution regarding this and other Tiffany lamp shades. Tiffany lamps are very popular and expensive; as such, there are a lot of 'knock-off' Tiffany glass lamps and shades on the market. While I believe our Scarab is an original, I have no assurance that our Scarab is a Tiffany original or a fake. In researching this Scarab, I found that due to the popularity of Tiffany production lamps, there are various companies who do produce knock offs of fake shades and bases. So, give proper heed to the Latin term “caveat emptor;” or, “buyer beware.” ■

## Whitley collecting becomes family fun, from page 2

Tommy and I both love green, so we have been trying to acquire more beautiful green pieces. We have a great emerald green Three Fruits ruffled bowl that we bought at HOACGA. Tommy has a great collection of Dragon and Lotus with one of them being an aqua opal. I also like the pastels.

I believe you can lust after the most beautiful and expensive pieces, but if you find something you really like, buy it. Tommy and I have always done just that, and

with Floyd and Cecil's help we began to pick pieces with decent color and iridescences. We have a collection that will not bring folks from far and wide to see, but we love what we have and enjoy looking at it. We could go on and on about the friends we have made because of our hobby, but everyone knows the people in the clubs are great fun. Where else can you know a group of friends with such great diversity? We enjoy each and every one of them.



Going green: Tommie and Jeannie Whitley's beloved greens include a Fenton Thistle plate, Millersburg Nesting

Swan bowl and an Imperial emerald green Homestead chop plate.

## Feature Gallery Additional photos from this month's feature stories



### Collecting on the Gulf Coast

Jerry and Connie Smith's travels included finding this amethyst Millersburg Zig-Zag tri-cornered bowl, at left, and the blue banded stippled Grape and Cable banana boat bowl.

A clear handle turns a Heavy Web bowl, above, into a basket, one of the pieces mentioned in Bob Grissom's **Heavy Web** story.

Another Smith purchase on the Gulf Coast brought home a cherry red Water Lily bowl, at right.



Same beauty by different names

## Fenton's Water Lily AKA Lotus and Poinsettia

excitement was somewhat dampened when I examined the bowl and discovered the color was actually light amethyst or lavender with an unusual overall "red" iridescence. The price was right so it came home with me.

First, let me try and explain the reason for the double color designation. The base glass color is difficult to actually determine due to the red iridescence which is generously applied to both interior and exterior surfaces. There are some slight shades of accompanying iridescences of green and blue, but the dominant iridescence is red. Using the bright sunlight as the back light, only the ball feet and collar base can be used to determine the base color of the glass as the body looks amber in appearance. The feet appear to be a very light purple or lavender.

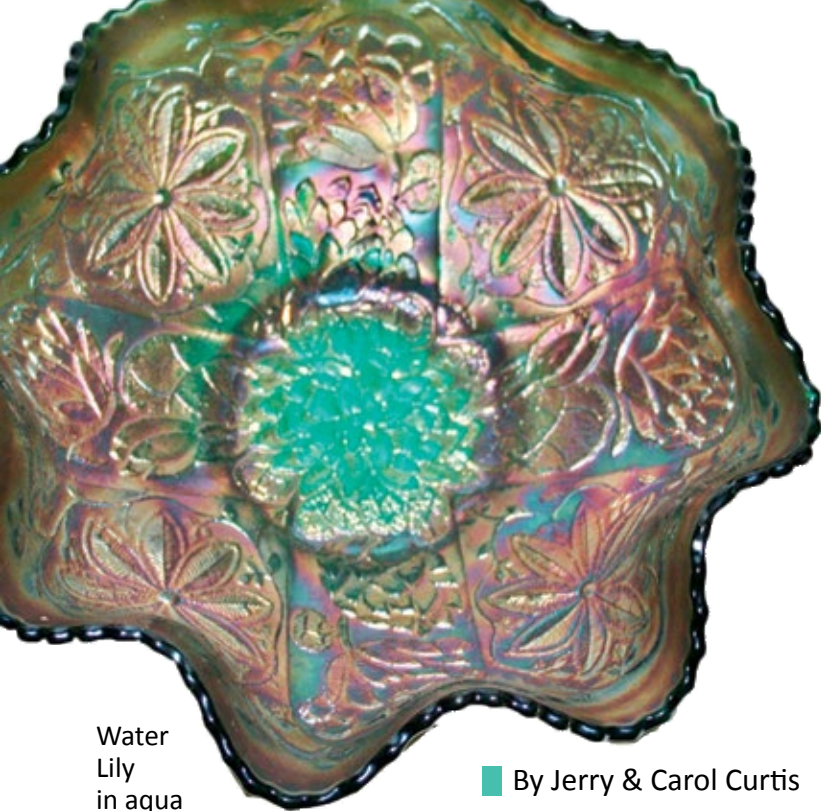
Doty lists only the color of amethyst, and the base glass of this bowl is more of a pale purple or lavender color. Carol and I have had the large Water Lily bowl in green and the small red bowl for several years; a large red one would be a real nice addition! After examining it closer, the disappointment soon wore off, for I had found a very pretty purple example with an unusual red iridescent treatment.

Fenton's Water Lily is a stand-alone pattern found in berry sets (large and small bowls) and a hand full of marigold chop plates. According to Dave Doty, the round shape is scarce in either the large or small bowl. A large red bowl would be considered a rare find, but small red bowls are more often found. This is to be expected as the ratio of small to large bowls would be four or six to one as masters are usually accompanied by four/six slaves. Bowls can be found with a collar base, but most are ball footed as are the three examples above.

I have found the Water Lily pattern to be somewhat illusive in my years of searching through the malls and shops. So far, all that we have seen, we

See Water Lily, Page 18

Water Lily in light purple with a red iridescence, above right. Water Lily in purple, at left.



Water  
Lily  
in aqua

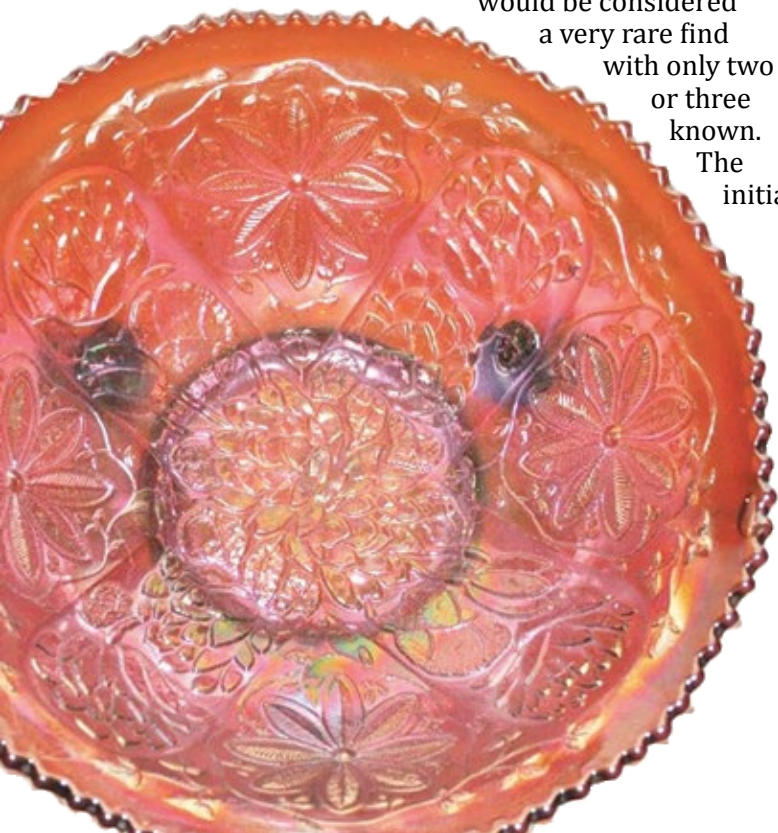
■ By Jerry & Carol Curtis

**The Water Lily** is a floral motif used by Northwood, Fenton, and Dugan in producing water sets in the Water Lily & Cattails pattern. The Fenton Company was the only carnival glass producer to use the pattern in a shape other than water sets which we have come to know simply as Water Lily. The Water Lily is only known in large and small bowls and chop plates. It runs the full spectrum of colors including the normal vivid colors and pastels.

I got very excited when I spied the large Water Lily bowl in the antique shop. From a distance I thought I had happened upon a large red Water Lily bowl which would be considered

a very rare find with only two or three known.

The initial



## Water Lily, from page 17

have purchased. I would consider the Water Lily as a close cousin to Water Lily & Cattails, Pond Lily, and Grape & Poinsettia. We have just two examples of Water Lily & Cattails and just one of the Grape & Poinsettia. The Water Lily & Cattails is a rather simplistic pattern, while the Grape & Poinsettia patterns are very busy. The Water Lily & Cattail pattern is on the exterior, while the Water Lily & Grape and Water Lily & Dahlia patterns are on the interior. The latter has a plain exterior, while the Cattails has a plain interior.

Flora is found on many carnival glass pieces enhancing beauty and desirability to each one. Were it not for the flora, our carnival glass would be just another piece of iridescent ware instead of the intricate patterns of beautiful carnival glass we all desire.

Of the considerable number of carnival glass pieces in our collection, I do not have another example that has the overall red iridescent effect as this piece. Are others out there? ■

Jcurtis95@austin.rr.com

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man



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These are parts needed to complete sets, one of each wanted.

Ray & Shirley Henry. You can reach at [kteacher14513@yahoo.com](mailto:kteacher14513@yahoo.com) The home phone is 864-327-9182



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Bob Grissom, 816-896-1931, [bgrsm31@comcast.net](mailto:bgrsm31@comcast.net).



Need lid for **Fenton Candy #736 [Elite]** in amberina. Please email Jerry Curtis if you have this part: [jcurtis95@austin.rr.com](mailto:jcurtis95@austin.rr.com)



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Dave Middleton 209-835-3797



I have a Diamond and Starburst wine decanter and stopper in great condition, purple with electric iridescence all over.

**Will trade** for a **Grape & Cable whiskey decanter** in purple/with stopper in same condition, or a Formal hatpin holder in purple. You can contact me at [Janekenney2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Janekenney2@sbcglobal.net) or call Bill Kenney at 816-537-4599.



**HOACGA souvenirs FOR SALE, all in RED:** 1976 decanter with 6 whiskey glasses, '77 hatpin holder, '78 corn vase, '79 loving cup, '81 Red candle lamp. ALSO '80 Green hatpin holder, Good Luck hatpins (no wires) Also have an ACGA In God We Trust Mug 1968, 1971 Joe St. Clair small plates - 2 **I am interested in selling them as one lot preferably.**

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Carnival Glass Action is published bi-monthly. Articles are greatly welcomed and may be sent to the club newsletter editors.

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Texas Carnival Glass Club (TCGC)

and

Heart of America Carnival Glass Association (HOACGA)

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You may choose to be a member of **either or both** TCGC & HOACGA for only \$10.00 each. This is **only** the membership and **does not include** receiving the "Combined Bulletin". (Being a member of both clubs means you are helping to support each one)

TCGC Membership----- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Please check your "Address Label" on the back of the newsletter. The numbers after your last name separated by a dash (-) is the date, month and year, for your membership and newsletter renewal. Please help by remitting your renewal and membership to the club treasurer, which is listed in the newsletter. This will assure that you do not miss any bulletins and the clubs secretary will not have to send you an additional notice. Thanks for your support.



**Gone again, gone again, summer the lovely...**unless you have photo memories of it! Carnival Glass vases enhance the beauty of flowers as shown by the sweet, spicy Carnations Sandy Sage uses in her displays. The pinks and reds accent her red Plume Panels vase, at left, and sapphire Thin Rib, below center. Seen on the cover is, appropriately, the Eda Floral Sunburst from the Sage's European collection.



An amethyst Leaf Columns squatty vase holds a posy of Cone Flowers, Sedum and Dusty Miller.



An amethyst Imperial Flute vase holds the slender stems of Phlox and Black-eyed Susan.



Donna Lee Olson uses her mid-sized marigold Morning Glory, above, as her "Go To" vase. Friends get bouquets in the vase, provided they bring it back! They love the dramatic form.