

The Pioneer

The Newsletter of the Antique Glass Salt and Sugar Shaker Club

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Colossal Auction: Scott W. Roland Estate at Jeffrey S. Evans

June Sprock

Numerous shakers and other items from the estate of Scott W. Roland were sold by Jeffrey S. Evans and Associates in the January 25, 2020 Winter Glass & Lighting Auction. As you know, Scott was a long time AGSSSC member who was working hard to revitalize the club. At the time of his passing (Nov 1, 2018), he was Vice President, Membership Chair, and Facebook Administrator. Scott was also a friend to many of us in the club and is very much missed.



Scott Roland with David Fuchshuber at 2018 AGSSSC Convention in Dallas/Ft Worth.

As both a collector and an antiques dealer (selling under the name Glimmerglass), Scott's estate included a vast quantity of Victorian glass, some of which was consigned to Jeffrey S. Evans and Associates. Among the 1044 lots in this mega-auction, nearly 800 lots were from Scott's estate, including many outstanding pitchers, tumblers, cruets, syrups, salt shakers and sugar shakers. The collection represented a wide range of Victorian glass and makers, including ruby-stain and opalescent, Mt Washington, Hobbs Brockunier, Northwood, Phoenix, and Smith Brothers.

There were over 150 lots with shakers, half of those sugar shakers, and approximately 50 lots with condiment or caster sets from Scott's estate. The sale also included items from several other estates, including 75 lots of sugar shakers from the Clyde Martin estate. With up to 20 salt shakers and 9 sugar shakers in some lots, there were over 1500 salt shakers and over 250 sugar shakers offered singly or in groups! Not surprising, this mega-auction garnered considerable interest and bidding was highly competitive!

Several of our members attended this marathon event which lasted more than 13 hours, including President Ron Miller and his wife Marilyn, Dale and Theresa Robinson, and Clark Adams and his daughter, Wendy Adams-Teter. Many more of us participated online, or through phone or absentee bidding. I am sure some of you were the lucky winners who acquired shakers and other pieces for your own collection!



Ron Miller with Jeffrey Evans at the auction gallery.

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AGSSSC Mission Statement

The Antique Glass Salt and Sugar Shaker Club encourages, promotes and supports the collection and study of late 19th and early 20th century glass salt and sugar shakers. The Club seeks to stimulate interest and education of members and the general public about this distinctive, historical and decorative art form by providing written documentation, research, news articles, opportunities for meetings and discussions.
This statement was adopted by members of the Board during a telephone conference call in September 2008.

Illinois Shaker

Don't Worry Be Happy

Do you remember that tune from a few years ago? It was one of Marilyn's favorite. It may be time to see if we can find that CD and play it again a few times. Sometimes we forget how good we really have it. I was reminded by a friend last week that a little over fifty years ago, we were both in Vietnam. So staying at home a couple of months isn't all that bad.

I will really miss this year's convention since it has been canceled, but most of all I'll miss those that attend. This will be a great opportunity for more of our members to plan on being at next year's convention. Let's make this next one the best ever. If you have never attended or it has been a long time, we really do have a great group of friendly people. No one leaves a stranger. Information regarding next year's convention will be provided once it is finalized.

Joining our Facebook page is really easy and will allow you to see and discuss many beautiful and outstanding shakers. I only do Facebook for the glass sites, so don't feel like you have to "friend" others when you sign up on Facebook. Our group is "Antique Glass Salt and Sugar Shakers". A special thanks to Rob Korn for managing our site and extra special thanks to Carol Linxwiler Bruce and Julian Rogers for all the great photos of shakers that they have been sharing these past few weeks. Other members and nonmembers have also joined in posting pictures and comments. I check the site 2 or 3 times a day and thoroughly enjoy it.

If you haven't gone to our website recently (agsssc.org), you may be surprised. Lanae Kilcoyne has added many shakers under the heading "The ID Project". It is a much larger data base now and most shakers can be found with a little searching. As Lanae receives additional information, it is included in the data base. She has made this a truly outstanding source to identify shakers. A shout out to Tom Foozer for maintaining the entire Website.

**Ron Miller,
President**

Welcome New and Returning Members!

New Members:

Blaine T. Dells, Flemingsburg, KY
Gordon (Gord) Edmonson, Duncan BC, CAN
Susan (Sue) Fisher, Breckenridge, MI

Returning Members:

Bonnie & Pat Higgins, Gananoque, Ontario, CAN
William Fredrick (Fred) Machledt, Covington, IN

From the Editor

When I wrote my column for the last issue I could not have imagined that the COVID-19 pandemic would sweep through the country and put everything on hold. As you already heard from Ron, the joint convention in August with the National Toothpick Holder Collectors' Society (NTHCS) was cancelled due to concerns about the health and safety of our members. Although we hope that the situation will be much improved by the end of the summer, most of our members are in a high risk group and it was prudent to cancel while the clubs could get a refund on their deposits. Don't forget to cancel your room reservations so you won't be charged. Although this is very disappointing, the good news is that the clubs plan to go ahead with the joint convention in 2021 at the same location. The date has yet to be decided but the NTHCS may be amending their bylaws to allow flexibility for the date of the convention.

You probably also saw in Ron's email that your paid 2020 membership will be extended through 2021 because we are not having a convention this year. If you have not paid, we are offering an extension until the end of the year to pay with uninterrupted issues of *The Pioneer* and membership benefits also extended through 2021.

This is the second issue of 2020. The next issue will be published in September. Despite the dark cloud of the novel coronavirus, it has been a beautiful spring and this issue focuses on the beauty of our shakers and glass collections. Hopefully, it will provide a pleasant and welcome diversion and some interesting reading!

This issue starts with the Jeffrey Evans Winter Auction with items from Scott Roland's estate. Several of our members had the opportunity to attend and many of us bid online or on the phone or left absentee bids. Next is a new feature, *AGSSSC News*, with information and updates about happenings in our club and about our members. Jim Beverage's article surveys the shakers produced by Hobbs Brockunier, with particular attention to Hobb's No. 216 shaker, a simple shaker that is anything but ordinary because it was made in a stunning array of glass colors and effects. Shakers that exemplify the late winter and spring holidays can be found in *Holiday Highlights*. This issue's *Auction News* features auctions with shakers from current and former club members. There is also a short piece examining online only auctions, which have become increasingly popular and may be the only option for some time to come due to COVID-19. As always, *Facebook Finds* highlights exceptional shakers and displays posted by our members on our Facebook page, and *Marketplace* is the free classified ad section for members. Remember, there are no listing fees, and everyone is welcome to submit shakers that are wanted or shakers for sale. Feel free to send me your business cards and links to your websites and online stores. I also want to encourage you to submit shakers that are wanted. Our members have a wealth of shakers in their collections and someone might be willing to part with that very shaker you have been looking for!

"Sell a few (or a lot of) shakers and find those special shakers to fill a gap in your collection!"

Please consider submitting articles and pictures of rare or interesting shakers for publication in *The Pioneer*. I am always seeking submissions of articles, from in-depth historical pieces to brief pictorial overviews, and everything in between. Finally, please send me member and club news that you would like posted on the *AGSSSC News* page.

**June Sprock,
Editor**



AGSSSC News

Convention Cancelled for 2020; Rescheduled for 2021

Due to the continued risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, our 2020 joint convention with the National Toothpick Holder Collectors' Society (NTHCS) has been cancelled. The joint convention is being planned for 2021 at the same location. Further news and updates will be provided as plans for next year are finalized.

Remembrance for Lon Knickerbocker

AGSSSC members and the antique glass community were saddened to hear that Harlon (Lon) F. Knickerbocker of Danville, NY unexpectedly passed away on January 5, 2020. He is survived by his wife of



24 years, Debra. Lon was owner of The Coast Antiques Sales and Services and was a well-known antique dealer at shows including the Eastern National Antique Show at Carlisle, PA. Lon and his wife have been members of the AGSSSC for a number of years, and most recently won "Best Single Shaker" for their cranberry Urchin shaker at the 2019 convention at Corning, NY. At the time of his passing, Lon was writing an article for publication in *The Pioneer*. The AGSSSC lost a valuable member but most of all we lost a friend. Our condolences to Debbie and Lon's family.



It is always tough to express how a person who has left us touches our lives. I knew Lon (Lonnie) Knickerbocker for a number of years and our friendship grew from show dealer friends to close caring friends. We met many years ago at the Harrisburg Eastern National Glass Show and the fact that we liked so many of the same things meant that we crossed paths over merchandise in good ways and in some tough competition but respect was never lost for each other. I could give you lots of details about our friendship but now is not the time but let me say that it was one of my great pleasures to have Lon and Deb attend our last AGSSSC Convention in Corning. It was their first (they lived nearby) and it was my wish that it would definitely not be their last. A wish that will not come to fruition.

Remembrance for Lon Knickerbocker (continued)

Before his sudden and devastating passing we had been texting over the week about merchandise, imagine that! He had found a piece he wanted my input on. We did this a lot and only occasionally did so via voice contact, so when the phone rang and it was his name in my caller ID, I answered with "to what do I owe this pleasure?"...it was not Lon but his wife, Deb who after a short exchange delivered the gut punch. I don't know when I have felt so empty. When a heart stops, it takes the person but it also leaves the love it generated and I will carry that love, that friendship of the sweet soul Lon was with me forever. I hope that Deb and I will remain close. She survives him with all the years of love they shared.

My last thought, remember to say "I love you" when you have the chance, I did and I will never regret it!

Jay Rogers

Special Birthday for Carole L. Bruce

A Surprise Birthday Party was held in January with some of Carole's Antique Salt Shaker Friends.



Paul & Dianne Miller, Carole Bruce, Roger Haworth, Chris Browning, Dr. Wilf Cohen, Dean & Leann Lindsey, Dolli Cohen, Dr. John & Jan Mace.



Special birthday cake picturing Carole's very rare footed Alaska salt shakers.

Please contact me if you have news that you would like posted on the AGSSSC News page.

Colossal Auction: Scott W. Roland Estate at Jeffrey Evans (cont'd)



Dale and Theresa Robinson at the Jeffrey Evans Auction.

Right to left Top shaker lot in the auction: Rare cobalt blue Pillar shaker and dark cobalt Column shaker with mica inclusions far surpassed the estimate selling for \$1200; lot of 4 decorated amethyst shakers. Images courtesy of Jeffrey Evans.



Left to Right: lot of 2 pairs of decorated honeycomb-optic shakers in holders; pair of amberina decorated shakers in holder; pair of Mt Washington Tomato shakers in an original Toronto holder with leaves and tomatoes; set of cranberry decorated shakers in Meriden silver plate holder. Images courtesy of Jeffrey Evans.

Among the sugar shakers were two rarely seen colorless Northwood Leaf Umbrella sugar shakers, one frosted shaker and the other shiny, that sold for \$275 and \$150, respectively. Other notable sugar shakers included a cranberry opalescent Bubble Lattice shaker and a blue opalescent Fern shaker in the rare ovoid form that each realized a price of \$325. A cranberry opalescent Fern sugar shaker brought a high bid of \$275.



Left: rare colorless satin and crystal Northwood Leaf Umbrella sugar shakers;
Right: cranberry opalescent Bubble Lattice and blue opalescent Fern shakers.
Images courtesy of Jeffrey Evans.





Rare blue opalescent Northwood Ribbed Coinspot salt shakers. Image courtesy of Jeffrey Evans.

Although not part of Scott's collection, the second highest shaker lot in the auction was a pair of rare blue opalescent Northwood Ribbed Coinspot salt shakers with replaced (non-period) lids that garnered a final bid of \$1100. Also not part of Scott's estate were two amber enamel decorated sugar shakers, likely of English manufacture, a Panel-Optic sugar shaker with a high quality enamel decoration of a lily with a lady bug crawling up the stem and a Spot-Optic sugar shaker with enameled flowers and leaves that sold for \$375 and \$275, respectively. A cranberry opalescent Wide Stripe Nickel Plate sugar shaker realized \$275.



Left to Right: Panel Optic and Spot Optic amber enameled sugar shakers; Wide Stripe Nickel Plate cranberry opalescent sugar shaker. Images courtesy of Jeffrey Evans.



Scott's estate included a substantial number of ruby stained shakers which were sold in large lots. Several of these attracted strong bidding. The two highest selling lots each brought a final bid of \$275, far surpassing their estimate of \$50—\$80. One lot (left) consisted of 18 shakers including two Big Button, Riverside Victoria, Cube with Fan, and National Glass Company's Eureka. The other (right) was a lot of 16 shakers including an O'Hara Diamond, Wimpole, Leaf and Star, and Alabama, to name a few.



Scott also had wonderful pitchers, tumblers, vases and other pieces of Victorian art glass. Notable pieces included a Hobbs Brockunier Coral (Wheeling peachblow) Morgan vase on the original glass stand that earned the highest bid in the auction, \$2900. Interestingly, the comparable satin vase sold for only \$400 although the stand had some damage. Also far exceeding its estimate was a blue opalescent blown-molded Coinspot barber or bar bottle that attained a final bid of \$1700. A very rare Hobbs Polka Dot (inverted thumbprint) Ruby Sapphire (bluerina) covered cheese dish sold for \$1300. Another spectacular piece, a shaded cranberry overlay cut back windows pitcher attributed to Harrach sold for \$1100. Other rarities included a New England Glass Company plated amberina tumbler and a deep amberina pitcher with enamel decoration of leaves and insects attributed to Moser which was the featured piece in the auction, both receiving a winning bid of \$900.

Scott was an avid collector and notable antiques dealer who was very knowledgeable about Victorian glass. He would be pleased to know that his collection was sold by one of the best auctioneers and got passed on to those who love Victorian shakers and glass, including members of the AGSSSC.

See Auction News for more outstanding auctions with shakers from former and current AGSSSC members, Wilf and Dollie Cohen, Whitney and Judy Newland, and Leland Marple.



Left: Clark Adams and his daughter, Wendy Adams-Teter, intently watching the action at the Jeffrey Evans Winter Glass & Lighting Auction.



Right: Marilyn Miller enjoying a sandwich at the auction.

Hobbs: A True Mix of Art and Pattern Glass

Jim Beverage

The Hobbs, Brockunier firm gave us a variety of beautiful and useful glassware over its years of operation in Wheeling, West Virginia. Over much of the last half of the nineteenth century, the Company aimed for a broad market in quality goods, including art glass, cut glass, blown-molded pattern glass, and pressed pattern glass. All of these forms, with the exception of cut glass, are represented in the salt shakers that we collect and identify as Hobbs. Some are much more difficult to locate than others, but all represent solid quality. This article is not intended to be exhaustive of Hobbs shakers but rather illustrates some of the beautiful pieces made over about a ten-year period from 1883 to 1892. [fn 1]

Hobbs' No. 216 is the earliest of the shakers covered here, appearing in Company advertising in 1883. The 216 is a straight-sided cylinder with a relatively flat shoulder and a small ringneck below the cap, and you can expect to find some variation in the slope of the shoulder and shape of the ringneck. While the mold or shape number provides us with an original maker's identifier, it doesn't begin to reveal the wide variety of colors and finishes in which Hobbs made the shaker. Put another way, for some of us the name "216" may sound like a cue for a nap instead of a good reason to head to an auction, but give it a name like "Ruby Sapphire" or "Blurina" (see Figure 1) and a lot of us will be off and running!



Figure 1: No. 216 shaker in rare "Ruby Sapphire" or "Blurina."

The Hobbs' advertisement from 1883 shows No. 216 in Cracquelle (Figure 2). Cracquelle was made as early as 1881 and can be found in multiple colors, including crystal, old gold, canary, marine green, sapphire and ruby (or cranberry). The 216 in rare marine green is pictured in Figure 3, courtesy of Carole Bruce.

The same 1883 advertisement also refers to Hobbs' Spangled line although it doesn't picture the 216 in that finish. Spangled is a multi-layer art glass which includes a layer of sparkly flakes between inner and outer layers of glass. The flakes are generally referred to as mica, but an 1883 *Crockery & Glass Journal*

describes spangles produced by "flecking gold or silver foil" while a patent paper refers to "infusible crystalline material." Whether this means mica or something else, Hobbs' Spangled production has been much sought-after by collectors. The shaker pictured below left (Figure 4) has a blue inner layer and an amber outer layer which makes the flakes appear golden and also darkens the appearance of the shaker.

No. 216 also appears in Hobbs Polka Dot line, also referred to as Inverted Thumbprint or IVT. The Polka Dot optic was used by a number of art glass manufacturers, and Hobbs' line is found in multiple colors and a wide range of forms. As many of seventeen different color finishes are available in the line, including some with Coinspot opalescent treatment. There is no reason to think that salt shakers don't exist in every one of these finishes. Note that an 1886 catalog page for the Polka Dot line also shows a shorter cylinder salt shaker without a ringneck, No. 223. Sorry, but this article doesn't include a present-day picture of this shaker. If one of these ever made it into our house, we must have unknowingly let it escape!

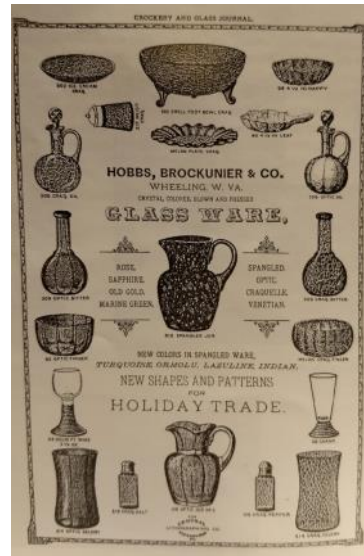


Figure 2: Hobbs advertisement From 1883



Figure 3: No. 216 Cracquelle shaker in rare marine green; courtesy of Carole Bruce.



Figure 4: No. 216 shaker in rare Spangled line.



Figure 5: Sapphire opalescent, Ruby Amber and Canary opalescent No. 216 shakers in Polka Dot line.

Here are a few examples of No. 216 from the Polka Dot line, ranging from ruby amber to sapphire opalescent to canary opalescent. Don't be surprised if the opalescence is rather light in nature. Hobbs produced opalescence in a range from light to heavy, probably depending on the skills and intent of the gaffer who made the shaker (Figure 5).

No. 216 also appears as part of Hobbs' No. 325 line of opal swirl pieces in 1888. Here is an example in cranberry or ruby opalescent, with a pepper top rather than a salt (Figure 6).



Figure 6: Ruby opalescent No. 216 shaker in Hobbs' No. 325 Opal Swirl line.



Figure 7 (left): No. 216 blue cased Satina Swirl shaker with typical curved shaped Satina Swirl shaker.

One final finish in our No. 216 forms came from a long-time dealer and collector, Marge Musgrave, over 25 years ago. We didn't know enough to ask her for information about it at the time, although my fond memories of Marge assure me that she would have had a story to share (and the story may even have been about the shaker). Here it is: a blue cased Satina Swirl, pictured with another Satina Swirl in a different curved form. Note that the curved form and a third form are both pictured in a catalog page from 1886, but not the 216 (Figure 7).



Figure 8. Spherical form Polka Dot shaker in Sapphire opalescent.

The end result on No. 216: If you undertook to put together a collection of 216 shakers in every combination of color and finish, you would have at least two dozen shakers. Note also that at least some of the colors and finishes found on the No. 216 Polka Dot shaker also appear in a bulbous, spherical form, so always keep an eye out for these hard-to-find gems. The two pictured here are sapphire with light opalescence (Figure 8) and rubina verde, with the latter pictured for contrast with a ruby sapphire 216 (Figure 9).



Figure 9. Spherical form Polka Dot shaker in Rubina Verde pictured with a Ruby Sapphire No. 216.

Next after No. 216 in readily available Company advertising comes Hobbs' Peachblow/Coral line in 1886. This is the line

that includes Hobbs' version of the famous Morgan vase, with griffin stand, and it is probably Hobbs' best-known and most popular art glass line. The shakers come in two sizes, a large and a small sphere or ball shape. Only the smaller is pictured here, but the larger is similar to the rubina verde and sapphire spheres shown above. These shakers are available in both glossy and satin finish (Figure 10, bottom left).



Figure 10. Peachblow/Coral shaker, glossy, small size.

As the 1880s passed, economic pressures on the business increased and styles changed, and we don't see much if anything in the way of new art glass designs for shakers by Hobbs. At least by 1889, Hobbs was capitalizing on the apparent popularity of amber-stain, using this finish for a number of patterns, including No. 326 Swirl in Frances Ware decoration and No. 327 Quartered Block with Star (Fig. 11).



Figure 11. No. 326 Swirl in Frances Ware decoration and No. 327 Quartered Block with Star.



Figure 12. No. 341. Mario amber stain and etched shakers.

The No. 330 Hobbs' Block shaker was also made in these same colors, as was No. 323 "Dewdrop" (better known as Hobnail), No. 331 (often described as Bulbous Base), and No. 339 Leaf and Flower. The No. 341 Mario shaker pictured here shows not only the amber stain treatment but also a beautiful etched design (Figure 12).

All of this amber-stained group was made toward the end of Hobbs' production, with the last of them coming around 1891.[fn 2] Note that Hobbs made its No. 335 Hexagonal Block during the later period in both amber stain and ruby stain, with and without etching. The Mario line should also be found with ruby stain.

As with the No. 216 shape, Hobbs did double duty with its No. 326 Swirl form, producing a beautiful Windows shaker in cranberry, blue and white opalescent. Similarly, Hobbs produced multiple colors and finishes in its Bulbous Base form. These include plain ruby or cranberry and Seaweed or Coral in cranberry, blue and white opalescent (Figure 13).

Bulbous Base also appears in a ribbed effect and in a rare yellow cased finish. Nicholas Kopp was working at the Hobbs factory during the period when the Bulbous Base line was made, and this color on a Bulbous Base form appears to both predate and preview Kopp's later work at Consolidated Lamp and Glass in Fostoria, Ohio.



Figure 13: No. 341. Bulbous Base Ruby and Sapphire opalescent Seaweed shakers with a cranberry opalescent Windows shaker.

Hobbs became a charter member of the United States Glass Co. in the winter of 1891 and by 1894, the Company was no longer making glass. The factory site came back to life after Harry Northwood and Thomas Dugan purchased it in 1902, and the Northwood Wheeling plant subsequently operated there for over two decades. Northwood made some beautiful pattern glass shakers in Wheeling, but the production style and standard set by Hobbs was by then a thing of the past. We nevertheless can still find and enjoy Hobbs' shakers today in many colors and finishes, some of which are shown here and some of which I hope reside with all of you. Keep a lookout for satin finish shakers you usually see in glossy (and vice versa), and don't pass up the odd and unusual. Beautiful shakers are still out there – maybe even a No. 216 in Peachblow or some other form in Spangled -- just waiting to be found! [fn3]

Footnotes

Fn1: During its years of operation, the Company saw both changing ownership and changing firm names. It is referred to here as "Hobbs, Brockunier" or simply "Hobbs".

Hobbs' cut glass production is less well-known than its other lines, but it may have included shakers. Jay and I have never identified a cut glass shaker as Hobbs, although we do have a cut glass sugar shaker on our shelf that is very like Hobbs' Bulbous Base form, although with slightly different dimensions.

Fn 2: Dewdrop or Hobnail was made as early as 1886 in multiple colors and finishes. There should be shakers out there in more than an amber stain finish.

Fn 3: For more detailed information on Hobbs' history, pattern lines and glass production, please see Neila & Tom Bredehoft's Hobbs, Brockunier & Co. Glass (1997), which is heavily relied on in this article. The Bredehoft book is particularly notable for its depth of pattern and original catalog information. William Heacock's Encyclopedia of Victorian Colored Pattern Glass, Book 6 (Oil Cruets From A to Z) (1981), also includes beautiful catalog pages. Heacock presents 15 colored catalog pages together, which is quite a treat to view as a whole.



Holiday Highlights

With so many holidays during the late winter and early spring, there is a wealth of shakers that could be included in this column!



Left: Valentine's Day Lovebirds: Cylinder, Slender, clear mold blown cranberry glass with hand applied enamel decoration of a pair of birds perched among branches and leaves; rare, 1884-1890. Maker unknown. Lechner vol. 2 (1992).

February brings Valentine's Day, often represented by hearts and flowers. Last year's spring issue featured Dithridge's Heart shaker and the Fostoria Shade and Lamp Company's Rose shaker. The countless cranberry glass shakers, pink opaque and cased shakers, and floral shakers also make lovely displays for Valentine's Day (left).

Although not everyone appreciates the shades of brown in chocolate glass, Chrysanthemum Leaf shakers (right) are highly collectible and would make a nice Valentine's Day treat! The spheroid form of these diminutive (2 5/8 inch tall) shakers with their intricate pattern of upraised swirled leaves encasing a band of



graduated beads is particularly aesthetic and visually appealing. These shakers are also found in crystal with and without gold decoration, while rare green undecorated and ruby stained chocolate glass examples have been documented in other tableware (i.e., butter dish, toothpick, vase/goblet). It was not produced in a sugar shaker. The Lechners (Lechner & Lechner, 1992) attributed the chocolate glass Chrysanthemum Leaf shaker to the Indiana Tumbler and Goblet Company (a.k.a. Greentown glass) or one of the other National Glass Company factories, but acknowledged that there is some disagreement as to the maker. The shaker was purportedly made from 1901-1903 and is considered very rare. Measel (2005) agreed that the exact origin of Chrysanthemum Leaf in chocolate glass is unknown. The Early American Pattern Glass Society (EAPGS) website notes that record of this pattern was found in a 1903 wholesaler catalog and that Carlsbad may have been the original manufacturer's name.

When it comes to St. Patrick's Day, we think of green, shamrocks, and all things Irish. From the deep emerald green shakers made by Riverside (e.g., Croesus, Ester), Northwood (e.g., Alaska, Intaglio), and the US Glass companies to the mint and lime green opaque shakers made by Consolidated, Dithridge, and Challinor to name a few, green shakers are well represented. The shamrock resembles a clover and according to legend was used by

St. Patrick to symbolize the Holy Trinity because of its three-lobed leaves. Both the shamrock and clover have long been associated with good luck. If you are looking for some good luck to come your way you might want to consider the Clover Leaf shaker by Dithridge and Company (left). This tall shaker consists of a long neck with a ball shaped base encircled with overlapping clover leaves. Known colors are opal (milk glass), opaque custard, pink, blue and green, which surprisingly is less commonly seen than the other colors. According to the Lechners, it was manufactured from 1894-1900 and is scarce (Lechner & Lechner, 1992).



Isn't it funny how previously never seen shakers always seem to appear on April 1st! These one-of-a-kind wonders (right) give us something to fantasize about after the dreary months of winter have come to an end!

It is hard to think of Easter without envisioning the countless Egg and Chick Head salt and sugar shakers produced by Mt. Washington! Although these were highlighted in *The Pioneer* last year (Volume XXXVI, No. 2) in considerable detail, it would be remiss not to mention them again at this time of year. The simple but elegant design of the Flat End Egg and the Egg Variant with smaller opening and prong top lid provided the perfect canvas for the talented decorators! Produced in many of the types of Mt. Washington glass, popular decorations included various flowers, delft scenes, and hens and roosters. Extremely rare Egg sugar shakers, one with a chick and the other with a rabbit, from the collections of Jay Rogers and Carole Bruce, respectively, were pictured last year. Another variant, the Flat Side Egg, was frequently adorned with spring florals and holiday greetings, including Easter Greetings. Without question, the most delightful variant of the Egg was the Chick Head shaker, an egg body with a realistic metal chick head affixed to a prong top lid. While salt shakers are rare and highly sought, Chick Head sugar shakers are extremely rare.



Fabulous Faux Mt. Washington Egg Variant prong top sugar shakers, Peachblow and Burmese with Queen's Pattern.



Worth repeating! Rare chick and rabbit decorations on Mt. Washington Egg sugar shakers, courtesy of Jay Rogers (L) and Carole L. Bruce (R), respectively.



Floral Flock: Mt. Washington Chick Head salt shakers with various floral decorations.



C.F. Monroe Chick on Pedestal shakers. What these chicks lack in sophistication is made up in personality. Image courtesy of Woody Auctions LLC.

The "country cousin" to the Chick Head is the Chick on Pedestal, an opalware (milk glass) shaker with a molded chick body (rather than the smooth egg body of the Chick Head) standing on a small disk of grass with a screw-on metal chick head for a lid. The Lechners (Lechner & Lechner, 1992) attributed this shaker to C.F. Monroe based on Wilf Cohen's finding of a 1903 trade ad depicting the shaker (Cohen, 1987). Standing 2 ½ inches tall, the usual decoration is a yellow or brownish wash on the body, green on the grass disc, and ochre colored legs and feet, although there is a rare variant with florals painted on its back. Only salt shakers were produced. The Chick on Pedestal shaker is highly collectible and is considered rare.

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- Lechner, Mildred & Lechner, Ralph (1992). *The World of Salt Shakers*, second edition. Paducah, KY: Collectors Books.
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Late Winter Auctions Feature Shakers and Other Glass from AGSSSC Members

This year began with great excitement and anticipation with several auctions having outstanding shakers and other items offered for sale. In addition to the Jeffrey Evans Auction with pieces from Scott Roland's estate (see lead article), the January 26th Seeck Auction featured Victorian glass from the collection of long-time AGSSSC members and antique dealers, Wilfred (Wilf) and Dollie Cohen, the Woody Auction on February 15th included Mt. Washington and rare C.F. Monroe pieces from AGSSSC members Whitney and Judy Newland, and Woody's February 29th auction gave bidders the opportunity to own pieces from Leland Marple's personal collection that are pictured in his book, *Phoenix Art Glass*.

As you know, auctions like other businesses were significantly disrupted in March after the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) swept through the country and many states issued stay at home orders. While many auctions were postponed or cancelled, others moved to an online-only format. Fortunately, many auctions were well positioned to make this transition as they already offered the option of online bidding via internet live bidding platforms (i.e., Liveauctioneers, Invaluable, Proxibid, HiBid). Even prior to this time, online-only auctions were becoming increasingly popular due to the many advantages to both the buyer and the auctioneer. A short article that provides an overview of online-only auction formats appears at the bottom of this column. With the nation still in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic, online-only auctions may be a necessity for the foreseeable future.

The January 26th Seeck Auction featured exceptional shakers, caster sets, mustards, condiments and other Victorian glass from Wilf and Dollie Cohen who are downsizing their collection. Many of you probably remember Wilf and Dollie's fabulous displays of Mt. Washington shakers at past conventions. This was an "online only timed closing" auction (see below article for a description of this format). Among the many rarities in the sale was a Mt. Washington cranberry prong top Egg Variant sugar shaker that sold for the bargain price of \$500 due to the presence of a small fracture. An extremely rare smooth sided burmese caster set with two shakers and a mustard in a Pairpoint holder sold for \$900, whereas the more common ribbed burmese salt and pepper set in a holder brought only \$140. Other standouts in the auction were a Webb decorated salt and mustard, a CF Monroe Chick on Pedestal, a New England Glass Company Agata salt shaker, and a Mt. Washington Cockle Shell salt shaker that brought final bids of \$225, \$200, \$190 and \$150, respectively. Several mustard jars also drew considerable attention. The highest lot was a pair of decorated cased vaseline mustard jars including a Swallow Song that sold for \$450, followed by a rare Libby Maize (corn) mustard that sold for \$400 and a Phoenix cranberry die away spatter and spangle mustard that sold for \$275. A Hobbs Wheeling Peachblow mustard jar and a pair of Wheeling Peachblow (large size) shakers each garnered a final bid of \$140.

Left top to right top: Mt. Washington cranberry Egg Variant sugar shaker; smooth sided burmese condiment set; Agata salt shaker; Webb salt shaker and matching mustard; Mt. Washington Cockleshell salt shaker; C.F. Monroe Chick on Pedestal; Vaseline cased decorated mustards; Libby Maize mustard; Wheeling peachblow shakers; Wheeling mustard; Phoenix spatter/spangle mustard. *Images courtesy of Seeck Auction.*



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Woody's Online Only auction on February 15th included Mt. Washington and C.F. Monroe (Wavecrest, Kelva, Nakara) shakers and other rare pieces from the Newland collection as well as items from other consignors. The highest priced shaker lot in the auction, consisting of a pair of Mt. Washington Chick Head salt shakers along with a pair of C.F. Monroe Chick on Pedestal shakers, sold for \$750. A lot with two Mt. Washington Cockle Shell salt shakers sold for \$350 while a pair of cranberry Fig salt shakers with floral decoration sold for \$300. Among the rarities was a lot with a Nakara salt shaker and mustard pot with matching decoration of daisies against a tan fading to peach background that sold for \$225.



Left to right: lot of a pair of C.F. Monroe Chick on Pedestal shakers with a pair of Mt. Washington Chick Head salt shakers; Mt. Washington Cockle Shell shakers; pair of Mt. Washington cranberry Fig salt shakers; matching Nakara mustard and salt shaker. *Images courtesy of Woody Auction LLC.*

The Woody February 15th auction also included three rare Mt. Washington cut glass Egg sugar shakers from the Blattner collection. Two of these shakers had extremely rare patterns and attained the highest price for a single shaker in the auction, \$650 each. According to club member Jay Rogers, one of these Eggs was cut in the Sultan pattern and the other had a pattern not previously seen nor found in reference books. The more common Diamond and Fan cut egg sold for \$150. Another popular lot from the Blattner collection consisted of two Mt. Washington clear decorated Fig pieces, a salt shaker and a creamer, and received a high bid of \$450. Although many of the Mt. Washington opalware shakers did not bring strong prices, a Mt. Washington Egg sugar shaker with rare Waterlily decoration sold for \$175.



Left: Rare Mt. Washington cut glass Egg sugar shakers: Sultan, Diamond and Fan, and unidentified pattern; Mt. Washington clear Fig salt shaker and creamer. *Images courtesy of Woody Auction LLC.*

Woody's February 29th Online Only auction featured items from Leland Marple's collection. Lee Marple is well known for his pioneering research on the Phoenix Glass Company which is documented in his book. He has also written articles on the Phoenix Glass Company for *The Pioneer* and presented at an AGSSSC convention. Marple organized his book by Phoenix pitcher mold shapes, showing multiple examples of each in the various glass colors and effects made by Phoenix. Not surprisingly, the sale included numerous Phoenix pitchers. The highest lot in the auction was a very rare cranberry fade away to blue (bluerina) Optic Spot (opalescent) small tankard which garnered a winning bid of \$1700. Several Phoenix toothpick holders brought strong prices including two ring base toothpicks, a cranberry MOP satin toothpick holder that sold for \$650 and a cranberry spatter/spangle toothpick holder that sold for \$550. There were a few Phoenix shakers and condiments in the auction. A set of cranberry fade away MOP satin glass Optic Spot shakers in a figural holder sold for \$600. Others sold for very reasonable prices including a pair of amberina Optic Spot shakers that sold for \$125, a lot of two Optic Spot spatter shakers that sold for \$100, and a single Optic Spot rubina shaker that also sold for \$100. A Phoenix spatter glass mustard sold for \$80.



Phoenix Optic Spot salt shakers: left to right: MOP satin glass shakers in figural holder, pair of amberina salt shakers, pair of spatter salt shakers, rubina opalescent salt shaker. *Images courtesy of Woody Auction LLC.*



Other Auction News

There were also some outstanding shakers in other auctions. Most notable was an extremely rare Plated Amberina corset shaped salt shaker that sold for \$2100 in the February 21st Jaremos auction. Other exceptional shakers in the auction included a Hobbs Wheeling Peachblow sugar shaker that brought a final bid of \$550, a Mt. Washington clear Cockle Shell salt shaker that sold for \$275, and a pair of amberina Phoenix Footed Pedestal Mold salt shakers that sold for \$200. Highlights of Woody Auction's March 14 sale included three Mt. Washington Fig (OMN Beet) sugar shakers, two opalware Fig sugar shakers decorated with pansies that sold for \$500 and \$450, respectively, and a rare clear decorated sugar shaker that received a high bid of \$700.



Left: Three Mt. Washington Fig sugar shakers: two opalware with pansy decoration and a rare clear Fig sugar shaker with floral decoration. *Images courtesy of Woody Auction LLC.*

Online Only Auctions

Online only auctions have become more prevalent in recent years because of the many benefits for the auction house as well as for the bidder. Additionally, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of auction houses recently adopted an online only format by eliminating their usual in-person bidding. In case you are not familiar with online only auctions, there are several formats that are offered through internet live bidding platforms like Liveauctioneers, Invaluable, Proxibid, HiBid and others. One format is very similar to other live auctions with an auctioneer conducting the sale and multiple bidding options but without on-site bidding or previews, making it an easy transition for the auction house and bidders. The two Woody Auctions in the above article used this format, eliminating in-person bidding but continuing to offer absentee, phone, and internet bidding. Other online only auctions restrict bidding to the internet, which allows for the auction to be completely automated without the need for an auctioneer to conduct the sale or for clerks to manually enter the bids.

Automated online only auctions use a **timed (or timed closing)** format, like the Seeck Auction mentioned in the above article. These auctions have an open bidding period, ranging from a few hours to a few weeks, and there is a so-called “soft closing” in which the lots start closing on a designated day and time, with a specified time interval between lots closing. However, the bidding time on a lot is extended if it receives a bid in the last few minutes. Extended bidding ensures that a lot receives the highest bid someone is willing to pay for the lot. It is also intended to prevent last minute sniping according to Proxibid's website. The auction company sets the parameters for the length of the open bidding period (e.g., 2 weeks), the time interval between lots closing (e.g., 30 seconds), and how long bidding is extended if an item receives a last minute bid (e.g., 3 minutes).

It can be a bit of a challenge for the bidder to track multiple lots that have their bidding time extended while new lots are closing every several seconds! To help the bidder, the screen shows a matrix of lots that are ending soon, as well as any lots for which the bidding has been extended (rather than a single lot as is typically shown for online bidding). In addition, a timer with the number of seconds before a lot closes is shown below each lot. As soon as a lot closes, it is no longer shown on the screen. Timed auctions are offered through most of the internet bidding platforms (e.g., HiBid, Proxibid, Invaluable, Liveauctioneers).

In addition to designating the time parameters, there are several additional options that auctions can select for their timed auctions. In HiBid, auctions can opt to set the time between lots closing based on value (*stagger close*), for example, specifying a longer time between expensive lots. This function can be used to mimic the common practice of auctioneers spending more time on valuable lots and quickly moving through low end items. Another option (*soft close grouping*) allows lots to be grouped by type of item (e.g., all cut glass shakers). If any lot in the group is extended due to a last minute bid, all of the lots in a group are extended. Proxibid offers *staggered end time auctions* in which groups of items close over a period of time and Liveauctioneers offers *timed auctions with reserves* to ensure that lots obtain an acceptable price. Although all of these choices may sound rather complicated, once the selections are made by the auction house, the logistics are handled seamlessly by the bidding platform.

Auction companies are increasingly embracing the online only auction format because of the reduced time, effort, and cost (e.g., personnel, utilities, rental of a facility) of holding a live auction. This is particularly true for timed auctions that are completely automated. A benefit to the bidder is that due to the reduced overhead, the buyer's premium is often much lower. For Seeck Auctions, the buyer's premium is 0%. When I talked with Jim Seeck at an antique show earlier this year, he explained that he tries to keep his costs down so that he does not have to charge the extra fee to the buyer. This is highly commendable given the continual rise in buyer's premiums, some as high as 35% on internet live bidding platforms. Another advantage of the timed auction format is that the pace and length of the auction is pre-determined. It is easy to know when a particular lot will be closing based on the lot number and designated time between lots closing (e.g., with a 30 second interval between lots, lot #100 will be closing 50 minutes into the auction). It also keeps the auction moving at an even and brisk pace (e.g., with a 30 second interval between lots, the auction will complete 120 lots per hour) and limits the length of the auction which can sometimes last all day with a live auctioneer. Given these advantages, plus the need for continued social distancing due to COVID-19, expect to see more online only auctions in the future.



Facebook Finds

Our Facebook page continues to be active with over 3000 members and several AGSSSC members posting regularly. Many of the postings during the past several months have been inspired by recent holidays and the beauty of spring flowers. Members also posted many rare holders and condiment sets in response to the theme, shakers in holders, including very rare Chick Head and Egg holders.



Happy St. Patrick's Day! These displays will make you green with envy! Posted by Carole L. Bruce (left) and Jay Rogers (right).



Another April Fabulous Faux: WA Bowen's "favorite beet juice shaker" - Northwood Paneled Sprig opal lattice salt shaker.



Beautiful floral enameled sugar shakers and Cotton Bale salt shakers to celebrate spring! These colorful triads were posted by Bruce Poulos and Jay Rogers, respectively.



The Holy Grail of shaker holders! Chick Head salt shakers in super rare original holder, posted by Bruce Poulos who feels "lucky to get this holder!"



Carole L. Bruce (L) and Jay Rogers (R) posted these very rare caster holders for Mt. Washington Egg sugar shakers.





More Eggs: rare holders for Mt. Washington Egg Variant salt shakers. Courtesy of Jay Rogers.



Just in time for Spring: rare Coquette and Flowers in Rain Variant salt shakers in holders, posted by Faye Rathbun.



Carole L. Bruce posted these rare Melonette and Foursquare (Billow) salt shaker sets in their original holders.



More floral and bird shakers in holders: Ribbed Pillar and Game Bird shakers in holders, posted by Sonia Smith.



Casting Call for Casters!



Wide Stripe and Mica encased shakers and cruets in caster sets, courtesy of Jay Rogers.



Rare floral enameled caster sets posted by Sonia Smith (L) and Faye Rathbun (R).





Marketplace

Classified Ads for the AGSSSC

*Place Your Wanted and For Sale Ads in the Pioneer Marketplace
Classified Ads Sell!*

Marketplace is a place for members to sell a few (or a lot) of shakers and to find those special shakers to fill a gap in your collection. There are no listing fees, and everyone is welcome including dealer members.

Feel free to send me your business cards and links to your websites and online stores.

june_sprock@hotmail.com

(Zoom in to improve readability and for a closer look at images)

Shakers for Sale

	Decorated Cranberry IVTP with 2 piece lid \$65		Northwood Green Opaque Grape and Leaf \$50		Pair Mt Washington Rooster and Hen \$250
	Mt Washington Unfired Burmese \$70		Blue Short Swirl \$55		Pair Northwood Rubina Threaded Jewel \$90
	Mt Washington Gold Decorated Melon Rib \$50		Cranberry Short, 2 piece lid \$65		Pair Decorated Amber Honeycomb Creased Neck 2 piece lids, \$135
	Murano Blue Diamond Quilted Mother of Pearl (frozen lid) \$150		Flower Decorated Bluerina, 2 piece lid, \$165		Bulbous Cranberry Coinspot Sugar Shaker \$225
	Pair Cranberry Decorated Shaker Set \$185		Flower Decorated Blue Short, 2 piece lid IVTP \$40		Blue Speckle Swirl Sugar Shaker \$170

For further information and to purchase shakers, please contact Rob Korn at robertkorn63@gmail.com or r.korn@verizon.net or 646-369-4353



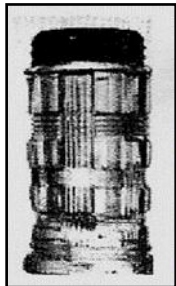
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High quality art, Victorian colored pattern glass, early New England glass, figural silver plate and accessories

Shakers Wanted

Wanted



E - Basket Weave, Open

Two shakers that we need for the Fostoria, Ohio Glass Assoc. museum, Glass Heritage Gallery.

Both shakers are shown in Peterson on pg. 154:

- ♦ E-Basket Weave, Open in the first row, and
- ♦ P- Beaded Oval Band at the end of row 3.

Please contact me at:
edsareed2@yahoo.com
Sally Reed



P- Beaded Oval Band