

The American Carnival Glass Association



Would you like to learn more about this beautiful and collectable glass? You may wish to become a member of the American Carnival Glass Association.

The American Carnival Glass Association is a nonprofit, educational group, interested in encouraging enthusiasm for Carnival Glass. A member of the ACGA benefits by receiving a quarterly newsletter devoted to Carnival Glass. It includes such things as news on reproductions, how to distinguish the new from the old, and detailed information about individual pieces. Current auction price results are also printed in the newsletter.

The Association also holds an annual convention where members from all parts of the United States gather to buy, sell, trade, display, and enjoy their beautiful glass.

In 1976, the "N" trademark became a registered trademark of the ACGA which made it illegal for anyone to reproduce glass with the "N." This is one way the owners of Carnival are protected.



Carnival Glass has become such a popular collectable that since 1966, many local groups across the country have formed new local clubs, with the intent and purpose of enjoying Carnival and the friendships associated with collecting this beautiful glass.

To the left is a picture of Northwood's largest Grape and Cable punch set in Purple. This is a very good example of the Carnival Glass Northwood is known for, Grape and Cable being their most popular pattern. Many pieces can be identified by an underlined N in a circle.

Carnival Glass as it is now called once had the nickname "Poor Man's Tiffany." It was originally made as an imitation of the more expensive Tiffany Glass, and was originally sold in china and glass shops, department stores and general stores across America. As the years passed, many "lesser" or left over pieces were sold by the barrel to wholesale houses for distribution as prizes to circuses, churches, lodges and carnivals, hence its present day name.

The thousands of Carnival Glass collectors across America invite you to join them in this fun and fascinating hobby. You can begin by reading the information provided in this website.

Carnival Glass is a type of colored, pressed glassware with iridescence fired on. It is now considered part of our American Heritage due to the fact that it originated here, and over 95% was produced in America. Although many types of pressed glass were made during the early 1900's, only Carnival Glass bears the striking iridescence which is its most prominent characteristic.

In Carnival Glass, we not only have a large variety of shapes and colors: we also find hundreds and hundreds of patterns. Shown here is a variety of Carnival Glass that illustrates some of the combinations of shape, pattern, and color we find when hunting for this beautiful glass. Included are: an Inverted Strawberry tumbler in Amethyst, Singing Bird mug in Purple, a Stag & Holly bowl in Marigold, a short Tree Trunk vase in Teal, a Funeral Tree Trunk vase in Blue, a Painted tankard pitcher in Green and a Loganberry vase in Amber.

Punch sets, table sets, water sets, mugs, plates, bowls, vases, accessory and novelty items of many varieties were produced. Illustrated below is a Marigold Corn Vase, an Elks bell in Blue and a Marigold Town Pump.

The colors of Carnival Glass are numerous. Marigold is generally recognized as the most common color, because it brightened the dark Victorian homes of the early 1900's. It is also found in green, blue, white, purple, red, pastel blue and green, and variations which include opalescent edges. The true color or "base color" of the glass is seen through the iridescence when held to the light.

To the right is a group of Carnival Glass in assorted pastels. These include an Ice Green Beaded Cable rosebowl, an Aqua Opalescent Three Fruits plate, a White Daisy and Drape vase and an Ice Blue Dandelion mug.



Many companies produced Carnival Glass, the six most productive of these were Northwood, Imperial, Dugan, Westmoreland, Millersburg and Fenton, which was the first to make Carnival in 1908. The Millersburg Glass Company was in production only twenty-four months, failing due to overwhelming financial problems. Today Millersburg Carnival is most avidly collected.

Among the many patterns Fenton produced, pieces that depict animals such as horses, deer, lions panthers and dragons, retain the same popularity today that they enjoyed in the "heyday" of Carnival Glass. A combination of this rare color, along with a desirable pattern, makes this a valuable piece.

Membership dues for the ACGA represent a modest fee compared to the benefits a member receives. Interested persons are invited to join the thousands of collectors by sending \$25 and your complete name and mailing address to:

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