


THE ANTIQUE DETECTIVE

Anne Gilbert



Pricey Steuben Crystal Offers Some Affordable Smalls

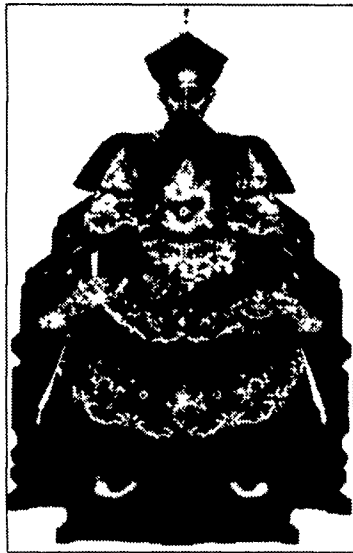
As part of its 100th anniversary celebration Steuben Glass is reissuing many of the sculptures designed from the 1940s to 1980s. This gives a new collecting generation an opportunity to get acquainted with the elegant crystal. Always expensive, there are many small, affordable pieces such as the hand warmers and figurines of animals, fowl, birds and sealife.

There were bargains to be found when many of these pieces came to auction in the 1990s. The people who had collected them in the 1960s and 1970s had moved on to other collecting categories or their estates were selling them off.

Needless to say prices are much higher today than at auction or even in catalogs from the 1970s -1980s. In the 1976 catalog for instance, the Koala bear sculpture designed by Lloyd Atkins in 1971 was priced at \$375. An auction price in the 1990s was \$150. In the current Steuben Heritage Catalog it is priced at \$1,400.

Hand coolers are a good place for beginners to start. Charming figurals of animals and sealife by famed Steuben designers are selling from \$195 to \$250.

Historically hand coolers were made in the 18th and 19th centuries of porcelain, marble and glass eggs to cool the hands



Steuben teddy bear hand cooler designed by David Dowler, 1995. Re-introduction of Heritage Series. Photo credit: Steuben Glass.

of ladies at dances. They were introduced in 1981 by Steuben.

Historically, when Frederick Carder founded Steuben glassworks in 1903, it was within the same era that Louis Comfort Tiffany was developing his new concepts in American Art Glass. Carder, like Tiffany, created new techniques and colors along with thousands of forms during the 30 years he headed Steuben.

In 1933 color was out. Replacing it were Scandinavian techniques that were combined with a newly developed optical glass composition. At Steuben

architects and designers were hired to work alongside the glassworkers. Before this, the engravers had worked at home.

Sculptor, Sidney Waugh, was among the first to use the new figural engraving techniques for Steuben, with his crystal "Gazelle Bowl."

Not until the post World War 11 1950s were full-lead crystal decorative pieces produced at Steuben. By the mid 1950s free sculptural forms of crystal animal and bird figures made. Designed by internationally famous artists in limited numbers they became the first examples of commercial American Art glass.

CLUES: Beginning collectors should familiarize themselves with the designs and designers through the many books on mid-century Steuben. An updated version of "Steuben Glass: An American Tradition in Crystal, by Mary Jean Madigan will be published by Henry Abrams in April 2003. Look for old Steuben Catalogs at second hand book stores and estate sales.

How about a collection of strawberries or field mice? These tiny pieces issued in 1976.

A set of six 2-inch strawberries cost just \$150. The 6-inch mice were \$115 each.

Should you discover any look on the bottom for the name Steuben. Since this was the year of the Bicentennial patriotic themes were popular. Maybe you'll come across a triangular-shaped stars and stripes paper-weight. The price then was \$160.

If you are a romantic type, there are a wide variety of heart objects from \$95 for an ornament to \$600 for two hearts entwined.

So, be it old or new, when you think Steuben, think small in size and price.

Lancaster Farming *Antiques Center*



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SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆◆Auction every Wednesday at 3:00 pm (except as noted below). Doors open at 1:00 pm◆◆
- Wed. Nov. 26 - CLOSED - NO AUCTION due to Thanksgiving Holiday
- Thurs. Nov. 27 - CLOSED - NO RECEIVING HOURS due to Thanksgiving Holiday
- Wed. Dec. 3 - Disney Figurines at 6:00 pm
- Sat. Dec. 6 - Antiques & Collectibles Auction at 8:30 am
- Wed. Dec. 10 - Coins at 6:00 pm followed by Comic Books, Steiff & Goebel, Lead Soldiers
- Sat. Dec. 13 - Longaberger Basket Auction at 9:00 am
- Wed. Dec. 17 - Last Auction for 2003
- Wed. Dec. 24 - CLOSED - NO AUCTION & Thurs. Dec. 25 - NO RECEIVING HOURS due to Christmas Holiday
- Wed. Dec. 31 - CLOSED - NO AUCTION & Thurs. Jan. 1 - NO RECEIVING HOURS due to New Year's Holiday

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Boy Scout items; military shell art and other pieces; Lincoln Logs, Lionel Train boxes, Matchbox cars and boxes; WWII foot lockers; Buddy L stake body truck, tow truck, tanker truck, pick-up, and Coca Cola truck; complete Nylint Safari Hunt; Baker toy guided missile carrier; Nonplareil red streak racer, Fisher-Price pull toys and others, Toddler Kinder Care blocks; tin toy with magnetic darts; Chinese checkers; Walt Disney character soap bottles; horse on wheels pull toy, Play-Doh toys; tin service station; original Wheel-Lo; cowboy and Indian items; cap pistols & holsters including Hubley, Rodeo, Texan Junior, Stallion 32, Buck & Long Ranger holster; original Davy Crockett dispatch case; Johnny Express liquid tanker; Toymaster Mobile gas tanker truck; MAR Disneyland Casey Jr. Express wind-up train; Western Flyer missile red wagon; Modern Toys tin friction car; child's violin with bow and case; multiple Tootsie toys; Hubley Bell Telephone truck; farm buildings; bird house; sock horse; Tom Thumb typewriter; car, airplane & bird models; variety of board games from the 50's & 60's; Kenner's Give-A-Show projector in original box with Huckleberry Hound, Yogi Bear, Flintstone, Quick Draw McGraw, etc.; stuffed animals from 40's, 50's & 60's; Erector set parts; children's croquet set; Marx toy transformer; wooden building block sets; spin top; tin Wolverine Arithmetic Quiz; Marx freight hauler; rocking horse baby seat; famous firearms collector's set by Marx; Minitown parcel delivery truck; lots of 60's plastic and metal toys; wind-up toys; squeeze box; Esso Tony the Tiger tails; Tyco Gran Prix racing set and other racing sets; large variety of children's books and magazines from the 50's and 60's; Hanna Barbera ceramic figurines; Mr. Peanut cups & whistle; Davy Crockett dishes; Tony Tiger breakfast set; ceramic bunny lamp and figures; toy bow; old radios; alligator hand bags and other purses; vintage wedding dress; variety of old books; magazine & paper advertising items; Little Chief Tom Tom IGA advertising drum; Hopalong Cassidy mug; Bonanza lunch box; Jiminy Cricket cup; Roy Rogers, Trigger & Bullet figures; Buck Rogers paper helmet and pistol; beer openers and other advertising items; metal dog bed; old & new prints, pictures and frames; crockery; sewing machine; Smith-Corona typewriter; vintage Halloween decorations including wax figurines, plastic pull toys, original skeleton costume in box; decorative sled; variety of early composition head dolls, doll bunk bed set; Schwinn Air-Tyne exercise bike; variety of table and floor lamps; brass, copper, pewter, silver plate, sterling silver & iron items; Christmas decorations old & new; many wrought iron fireplace log holders; Griswold frying pans; small kitchen appliances; mahogany vanity, wooden school desk & chair; Shirley Temple blue breakfast set; carnival glass, fiesta ware, corn dot glass, large amount of milk glass, paper weights, glass & ceramic vases; huge volume of knick knacks, ceramic boxes & figurines; dishes including Vcagco ceramic rooster dishes, Christian Dior, Royal Norfolk, Wtoctawek, Pfaltzgraff, Kensington Staffordshire, Blue Willow, Occupied Japan blue & white, dishes; sets of Dansk Bamboo, China Pearl, Nikko tableware; Centura by Corning; Wedgwood, Dansk bistro, Mikasa, Gibson, Rosenthal, miniature tea sets, glassware & stemware, Austrian plates; stained glass lamp; duck door stop; postal scale; French pitcher; Colgate Univ. glasses; iron rosette maker; iron weight; concrete planter; fire bucket; Stanglware; metal Bonnie Bread sign; Rockwell prints; beer steins; hand painted Gone with the Wind lamp; brass oil lamp; old & new linens; painted porcelain metal serving pieces; large assortment of costume jewelry, sterling silver & gold jewelry; new & old decorative tins.

Furniture: 8 piece French Provincial dining room set, two upholstered wing chairs & other upholstered chairs, sofas, variety of end and other small tables, 1960's metal breakfast set with Formica top, ball & claw table wicker high chest, white painted bedroom set, mirrors, Oriental chest, Boston rocker, Oriental throw rug, wooden office desk with credenza; many other items too tedious to mention.

Guns: Remington 22 ca. rifles, Ace 22 ca. rifle, decoys.

Owner COURTNE' R. YETTER moved due to health.

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- **10 A.M. Friday, November 28, in the Blue Room - 500 lots of old toys, many quite early, selected to present our best antique toy auction of 2003. SPECIAL MENTION: Set of 1948 Bowman baseball cards - 1 thru 36.**
- **10 A.M. Friday, November 28, in the Pavilion - The Lou Redman Estate (Mr. TCA #3) featuring very early American Flyer, Iven and Lionel "O" gauge trains.**
- **10 A.M. Saturday, November 29, in the Blue Room - the William Edson Estate, which contains early trains and toys in a wide variety of makers. An all together charming collection of boy's toys.**
- **10 A.M. Saturday, November 29, in the Pavilion - A continuation of the Redman Estate: Std. Gage & "O" gage trains, toys, railroad collectibles and TCA memorabilia.**

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