

National Cambridge Collectors

Annual Report

for

Year ended

December 31, 2007



Annual Report **2007**

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National Cambridge Collectors, Inc.

P. O. Box 416 • Cambridge, Ohio 43725 • Phone: 740-432-4245 • www.cambridgeglass.org

A nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and study of Cambridge Glass

Richard D. Jones President

Dear Fellow Cambridge Supporter:

We are very pleased to provide you with this Annual Report for 2007. It is through the generosity of our members and friends that we endure as an organization and it is important to us that we account to you each year.

As you review the pages of this Annual Report, you will see how complex our operations are for such a small organization and you'll get a sense of the tremendous volunteer support we receive. We are deeply indebted to every one of you who volunteers their precious time to help our organization in any way. And for those of you are not volunteering at this time, we welcome your involvement. We are populated with talented members and we can find important roles for each and every one of you!

As you'll read in Mike Strebler's Treasurer Report, our club is in excellent financial shape. Mike's new cash-based budgeting and reporting system has greatly clarified our financial position and made possible the publishing of this annual report for the second straight year.

In 2007 out of necessity as a result of our Membership Chair's illness, we dramatically changed our membership model to an Annual Fund/once a year renewal process. It was an extraordinarily success as we raised over \$40,000 – topping our budget estimates by more than 25%! THANK YOU! Through your generosity we were able to accomplish two significant milestones:

- > We paid off our museum mortgage in total (in less than six years we liquidated our entire \$125,000 mortgage while also paying for a new roof!)
- ➤ We paid off half of the \$50,000 loan from Fall 2006 to purchase the Summit molds (which were cleaned and inventoried at our August meeting by dozens of our volunteer members)

Our museum is hopping. Thanks to the Dickens Festival, we stayed open on many occasions late in 2007. We are building wonderful community relations, enhancing our education and outreach programs and selling a bunch of glass from our gift shop. Cindy Arent, Carl Beynon, our museum workers and volunteers should be highly praised.

Another by-product of your support has been the ability to invest more in the Crystal Ball. The production quality has been enhanced, photographic quality is improved immensely and we are now publishing two issues a year in color – and they are magnificent. We've been blessed to have a first rate editor (Helen Klemko) follow another first rate editor (Alex Citron) – and a smooth transition it was. At the conclusion of 2007, we launched a new, exciting and refreshed website. Our webmaster David Adams is to be lauded – take a look if you haven't yet!

As we look to 2008, I am very energized about the prospects for NCC. As our house is in good order, it gives us the opportunity to really grow and prosper. Here are some things I'm looking for in 2008:

- > Smooth and successful implementation of Year II of our Annual Fund
- A motivated Annual Fund Director and the launch of a Donor Relations function that works to thank and accommodate all of our Benefactors
- More member volunteer support for the club and ideally, the creation of a Human Resources Director position to harness this talent
- > The beginnings of a plan to consider Museum Expansion
- > An expansion of our Community Relations involvement and support
- > Stronger performance for our Glass Dash and Annual Glass Show & Sale
- > Zero-based look at our Constitution and By-Laws
- > More donated glass for the museum and especially resale inventory
- > The development of many education programs that can be shared by PowerPoint and/or website dissemination
- > Fresh look at a different Colors or Introduction to Cambridge Glass book
- Enhanced focus on our Endowment Fund and Planned Giving that helps ensure our museum and organization endure into the next several generations

It is an ambitious agenda and I know I left several items off of the above list (there are more!). It has been my honor to serve as your President for the past year and we are blessed with a dedicated Board of Directors who works hard and cooperatively in your interest to help fulfill and expand our preservation mission.

Again we thank you for your support in 2007 and look forward to it again in 2008.

Best regards,

Richard D. Jones

President

June 2007 – June 2008



The National Cambridge Collectors

P.O. Box 416 ~ Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Message from the Treasurer,

The National Cambridge Collectors (NCC) was started by a small group of collectors who appreciated the artistry of products from the Cambridge Glass factory. Each year more joined the group. Links were established with the history of the company and those who worked at the plant. One of these pioneers once described the excitement of finding the original 1930-34 catalog in a file and being able to positively identify pieces long suspected of being made by Cambridge. The group then published reference books, which are still the mainstays of research today. Finally, we built a museum. At this point I can say we since I was a part of it by then, not an active part, but I was there.

Over the years I started to make glass friends with others in NCC. I found great joy sharing with others who appreciated the same beautiful glass I did. As I had more interaction, I realized these weren't just Cambridge Glass collectors. They were good, warm, kind, helpful, and fun people. I like fun things so I invested more of myself and my resources.

A group of people who share a common interest and enjoy the company of each other can accomplish great things. I think the 2007 Annual Report shows just how much sharing and enjoying has taken place. We have a fabulous museum with all the accoutrements, most of the known original factory molds, and a great storage/support facility. For all this, we are down to the final \$25,000 of debt after making payments of \$51,400 in 2007. If the coming year is anything like 2007, we will be debt free by our 2008 Convention - pretty impressive.

The 2007 Annual Report shows a financially healthy organization. The debt payoff jumps out from the numbers. A significant financial commitment was made in 2007 that is a bit more subtle. We invested in ourselves. Most obvious are the improvements in the Crystal Ball. The majority of members can't make it to Cambridge for the events so we need better ways to share in the fun. Another investment along these lines is an increasing amount of membership and marketing oriented expenditures. We want everyone to feel they have friends in the National Cambridge Collectors.

In sum, I think we are over the hump financially for what we have tried to achieve thus far. The question before us is where do go in the future......

January 21, 2008

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