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Early Glass, Flasks, Bottles On Tap At Heckler Auction March 17–26

WOODSTOCK VALLEY, CONN. — Norman C. Heckler & Company's absentee auction #108 will offer 96 glass items in a compact but potent sale, running online March 17–26, ending at 10 pm on the final day.

"This won't be our biggest sale ever, but I'm extremely pleased with the quality and rarity of the bottles and glass being offered," said Norman Heckler. "This auction includes exceptional pieces in a surprising number of bottle collecting categories, including early glass, historical flasks, colored medicines, whimsy hats, bitters, inks, black glass and more."

A number of choice pieces will come from the Clarissa Vanderbilt Dundon collection of historical flasks. Dundon is the daughter of pioneer collector Merritt Vanderbilt. This vast collection has been admired and sought after by many collectors over the years.

Perhaps the most noteworthy piece from the Vanderbilt Dundon collection is a sunburst snuff jar manufactured by Keene Marlboro Street Glassworks of Keene, N.H., circa 1815-1830. The deep yellowish green bottle is quite rare (\$20/40,000).

Three flasks carry identical presale estimates of \$15/30,000. The first is a very early, rare and unusually colored concentric ring eagle historical flask, circa 1818-1830, by New England Glass Company. This brilliant yellow green flask is accompanied by profuse correspondence dating to the 1950s from George and Betty McKearin, as well as J.E. Nevil, concerning the proposed purchase of the flask (though they were not successful).

The second flask is a Washington Bust and Frigate portrait flask, circa 1847-1850, in a brilliant yellowish olive, manufactured by Albany Glass Works. The third, a light yellow olive Eagle-Cornucopia half-pint historical flask, is an early rarity from the Pitkin Glass Works of Manchester, Conn., circa 1815-1830.

Another important half-pint flask is a Lafayette-DeWitt Clin-



Sunburst snuff jar manufactured by Keene Marlboro Street Glassworks of Keene, N.H., circa 1815-1830 (\$20/40,000).



Rushton & / Aspinwall / New-York - "Compound / Chlorine / Toothwash medicine bottle, circa 1840-1860, probably made by either a Stoddard or Keene glasshouse (\$7,5/15,000).

ton portrait flask, from Coventry (Conn.) Glass Works, circa 1825. This flask is rare because it has two rings at the bottom rather than three (\$2,5/5,000).

Rounding out the flasks category are two examples, both expected to realize \$4/8,000. The double eagle historical pint flask, circa 1850-1855, possibly by Kentucky Glass Works of Louisville, is a brilliant sapphire blue. The second is a sea green concentric ring eagle historical quart flask, circa 1820-1830, probably by New England Glass Co.

Of the eight hat whimsies in the auction, two are particularly noteworthy. One is an octagonal hat formed from a utility mold glass bottle, made in America circa 1840-1860, bright golden amber in color (\$1/2,000). The second, an example from the Dr Paul S. Andreson collection of hat whimsies, is a bright light green pattern molded glass hat whimsy with 16 ribs swirled to the right, probably made in Midwest America circa 1820-1840 (\$500-\$1,000).

There will be 13 early medicines in the auction. A Rushton & / Aspinwall / New-York — Compound / Chlorine / Tooth-



the Massachusetts politician Jonathan Mason (\$600-\$1,200). Another English sealed wine bottle in a deep olive green reads "Jno Croad-Esqr-Keyham / 1797" (\$800-\$1,600). A deep olive green "T Bailey" sealed wine bottle was probably made in England between 1760 and 1770 (\$1/2,000). The base embossed "New Eng Glass Bottle Co" rum bottle is the only American black glass bottle in this auction (\$600-\$1,200).

Among the seven bitters in the sale are a yellow green ear of corn National Bitters figural bottle, with an early multicolored painted surface, American, circa 1860-80 (\$3/6,000) and a Brown's Celebrated Indian Herb Bitters Indian queen figural bottle, circa 1860-80 in golden yellow (\$1/2,000).

Highlighting rare ink bottles



Early, rare and unusually colored concentric ring eagle historical flask, circa 1818-1830, by New England Glass Company (\$15/30,000).

Yellow green ear of corn National Bitters figural bottle, with an early multicolored painted surface, made in America, circa 1860-1880 (\$3/6,000).

and inkwells are a J.L. Thompson / Troy N-Y master ink bottle in a bright yellow olive, unlisted (\$2/4,000); a Pitkin-type inkwell having an unusual square form, probably from Manchester, Conn., circa 1783-1830 (\$1,5/3,000) and the North & / Warrin's / Fine Ink circa 1840-1860, dark grayish blue green in color (\$500-\$1,000).

Rounding out the sale is a rare utility item in a freeblown egg form, noteworthy for its distinctive shape. The little light yellow olive bottle was probably manufactured at a Connecticut glasshouse and is only 3½ inches tall (\$400/800).

Preview will be February 25-March 15, 9 am to 4 pm, at Heckler's showroom, 79 Bradford Corner Road. For further information, 860-974-1634 or www.hecklerauction.com.

'Great American Stories' In Glass Talk Will Be At Metro Glass Club March 4

NEW YORK CITY — Kelly Conway, the newly appointed curator of American glass at the Corning Museum, will bring a patriotic theme to her lecture at the next meeting of the New York Metropolitan Glass Club on Tuesday, March 4, at 7 pm. She will illustrate the lengthy American tradition of creating glass objects to commemorate major national events, to celebrate Yankee innovation and ingenuity and to celebrate politicians, artists and titans of industry.

These glass objects often incorporated emblems such as flags, eagles, ears of corn or log cabins, which became symbols of the country's national identity. Conway will focus on individuals and events that shaped American popular culture and will show they were incorporated in patriotic motifs commonly recognized today. She will illustrate her talk with objects from the collection of the Corning Museum of Glass.

Conway is a return speaker, having addressed the club four years ago on the renowned glass

collections of the Chrysler Museum. She received her master's degree in the history of decorative arts at the Smithsonian Institution and Parsons School of Design. Prior to joining Corning, she was curator of glass at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Va., from 2007 to 2013. She was a member of the team that established a hot glass studio at the museum in 2011. Conway also headed the design and reinstallation of the Chrysler's new glass collection gallery, as part of the museum's major renovation which will be revealed this coming May.

The New York Metropolitan Glass Club meets the first Tuesday of each month (from October through May) at St Michael's Church at Amsterdam Avenue and West 99th Street. Annual membership dues range from \$25 (student rate) to \$75 (for a family). Attendance on a per meeting basis is \$10 per person. New members and visitors are welcome at meetings.

For additional information, www.nycglassclub.org.

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