

OPEN SALT COLLECTORS



Issue # 35 – Fall, 2016

The Salter's Company 500th Anniversary Salt

By Mary Kern

This highly ornate loving cup style sterling silver salt was designed by J.B. Carrington of London in 1893 to commemorate the 500th year of The Salters Company. The scroll handles depict a male and a female figure facing in opposite directions. It has the Salters intricate Coat of Arms on one side and the other a cartouche with the inscription "The Salters Company 500th Anniversary 1394 April 1894". Incorporated in the Crest is a banner with the company motto, Sal Sapit Omnia, Salt Savours All. The arms were granted in 1530 by Thomas Benolt. Then the crest and supporters followed in 1591 having been granted by Robert Cooke. Also included in the crest are three covered salt cellars.

The Salters' Company was licensed in 1394 and is still one of the Great 12 Livery Companies. According to Wikipedia "Originally, the Salters' Company included individuals whose trades involved the usage of salts and

the preparation of chemical mixtures for use in food. As with many other livery companies, the Salters' Company has lost its direct connection to its original trade. Currently, however, the company supports the chemical industry and supports education in chemistry, for example by awarding scholarships to chemistry students. Furthermore, it is a charitable organization."

The Company has a long-standing tradition of presenting a piece of silver to each member on historic occasions. These pieces were not always a salt cellar. I am just starting to research more on the company and the pieces of silver that were presented. Hopefully I will be able to share pictures of more salt cellars either commissioned by The Salters Company or simply

purchased by them along with other silver pieces. By visiting their web site and clicking on "The Salt Collection" link, you can see their Millennium Salt along with a few others. <https://www.salters.co.uk/>



Continued page 20

President's Message

I hope everyone had a great summer and is enjoying the fall, had a chance to attend a local salt meeting, and found new salts to add to their collection in 2016. You can share pictures of them with all of us by posting a photo on the Open Salt Road Show section of our web page.

Sixteen years ago members of our open salt clubs began a new venture -- the publication of a national newsletter, which combined the resources of every club, to provide each member an interesting and varied newsletter with articles contributed by members from all over the country, along with news of each club's events. In the fall of 2001 the inaugural issue of the Open Salt Collectors National Newsletter was published. Today, fifteen year later, the 35th issue of the National Newsletter has been published. Hats off to Kent and Mary, our current editors, for a job well done in 2016, and to Donna, Rod, Debi, and Al, our past editors, and to all those who have contributed articles during the sixteen years to make our Open Salt Collectors National Newsletter what it is today!

On May 4-6, 2017, which is less than six months from now, the 15th National Open Salt Convention will be held at the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley Hotel in San Diego, California. It's not too early to begin planning your trip to San Diego!

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a joyous New Year!

George

A Note from the Editors

We hope that you enjoy reading this edition of the newsletter. We want to thank everyone who contributed to make this possible. Again, we ask that you consider sharing pictures of your collection as well as your knowledge. Contact Mary Kern, Marykernsd@cox.net to discuss how you can contribute.

Co-editors Mary Kern and Kent Hudson

Inside This Issue

Salter's Co. Anniversary Salt	1
Presidents Message	2
Convention News	3
Compendium Addendum	4
Salts She Wrote	12
Carved Rock Salt Salts	15
Outside the Curio Cabinet	18

© Copyright 2016 ♦ Open Salt Collectors

While we encourage the dissemination of information about open salt collecting, we do like to know in advance when and where material originally appearing in the National Newsletter will be used. Please contact the Editor (khudson639@verizon.net) if you would like to use any-thing from this newsletter. When publication occurs, we also ask that a copy be sent for our archives.

The National Newsletter is the official publication of the Open Salt Collectors, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and encouraging the study, collecting and preservation of open salts. This is done through the publication of a national newsletter, maintaining an informational website, promoting membership in open salt collecting clubs, publishing informational and educational articles in collector publications and through other means as may be appropriate from time to time.

The National Newsletter of Open Salt Collectors is published three times per year—in April, August and December—in both electronic and hardcopy versions. Subscriptions are available through the organization's website (www.opensalts.info).



15th NOSC Convention San Diego, CA



By Gerry Grube

The 15th National Open Salt Collectors Convention will be held in San Diego, CA, from Thursday May 4, 2017, to Saturday May 6, 2017. The meeting venue is the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley Hotel, which is a full service Marriott hotel. A full convention schedule is being planned, including interesting speakers, buy and sell, displays, a reverse auction, a Tenderfoot orientation session for first time attendees, a hospitality room, and meals including the Saturday evening banquet. A special fun event for all attendees will be a Friday sunset two hour Sights and Sips Cocktail Cruise in the San Diego Harbor, including hors d'oeuvres, a light buffet, and desserts. The cruise will feature many San Diego sights in both the North and South Bays.

You will want to obtain at least one of the convention open salts. An excellent San Diego enamel artist Pat Aiken has custom designed and is making our convention salt, composed of enamel fired on a copper bowl. The California themed design features California poppies and the bell tower of the Mission San Diego de Alcala, which is located near the hotel. The crimped edge of the bowl adds interest to the open salt. The very beautiful salt will be available for \$75.00, a very reasonable price for such a desirable and distinctive addition to your collection.

Reservations for the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley Hotel can now be made through the online link: <https://aws.passkey.com/go/NOSNMay2017>. No deposit is required. The negotiated convention room

rate is \$139.00 plus tax per night single or double occupancy. That rate is available for three days before and three days after the convention, so from May 1 to May 9, 2017. The cut-off booking date for that guaranteed rate is April 13, 2017, but based on availability may be available after the cut-off date. Please book through the link so that we can meet our room block obligation. Marriott Rewards members get complimentary WiFi in all guest rooms. If not a Marriott Rewards member, you can sign up for free online before booking your room at

marriott.com.

There are many sights and places to visit in and around San Diego, including Balboa Park, the San Diego Zoo, SeaWorld San Diego, the Mission San Diego de Alcala, the USS Midway Museum, the Gaslight Quarter, Old Town, Coronado, La Jolla, and the San Diego Zoo Wild Animal Park. San Diego has one of the best climates in the country!

Do note that none of the museums in Balboa Park have open salt collections. Instead several Southern California open salt collectors will host open houses, primarily on Sunday May 7, 2017, and Monday May 8, 2017. Some of these collectors live a 1.5 to 2.0 hours drive from San Diego.

The San Diego International Airport is about eight miles from the convention hotel. Other more distant

airports you might consider include Los Angeles International Airport, John Wayne Orange County Airport, and Ontario International Airport, especially if you want to also visit the Los Angeles and Orange County areas.

We are planning to have the convention registration materials available and sent in January, 2017. Please do plan on attending the 2017 NOSC Convention to learn more about open salts, to add to your open salt collection, to renew old friendships, and to make new friendships and memories.



The 15th NOSC Convention Salt, designed and made by Pat Aiken, features California Poppies and the Bell Tower of the Mission San Diego de Alala

Compendium Addendum – Volume 3

Cameo Glass Open Salts

By Sandra Jzyk and Nina Robertson

This is the third in an ongoing series of articles designed to supplement, correct, and enhance The Open Salt Compendium by Sandra Jzyk and Nina Robertson.

English glass cameo salts continue to appear on offer at shows and on the internet far less frequently than their French counterparts. As a result, we have few English cameo salts to add to the short chapter included in The Open Salt Compendium.



Figure 1 – A very rare cameo salt in that it is three layers: white interior, cased in raisin (the rarest of the English cameo glass colors), and then layered again in white.



Figure 2 – This English cameo salt is a very unusual color combination, a pale green over yellow-beige or custard, with the cameo flowers and leaves nicely embellished with gold.



Figure 3 – Another example of multi-layered glass, this one with four distinct layers: white, cased in blue, cased in lavender, then cased in white.



Figure 4 – One of a pair of lovely blue and white English cameo salts that feature acorns and oak leaves.



Figure 5 – Called 3 color, it is really 4 layers of glass, white inside, then yellow, then red, then white again.



Figure 6 – This boxed set of two blue English cameo salts with silver spoons sold for about \$2,000 in 2015. A bargain for the alert bidder!

Figures 7 and 8 – This is not a cameo salt but rather the rarer English intaglio salt, sort of the opposite of cameo in that the design is engraved into the layers of glass rather than the background being carved away. If you ever see one of these, buy it first and ask the price second!



When it comes to French cameo open salts, the name that comes to mind now, as when The Open Salt Compendium was first published, is Daum Nancy. And when it comes to Daum cameo glass salts, the prevailing themes are landscapes and florals. But just as all

landscapes are not created equally, so it is with all Daum land- and seascape salts. The rarest forms remain the landscapes featuring blackbirds in snow covered trees and those depicting windblown trees in rain.



Figures 9 and 10 – Two of the few Daum Blackbird salts to come to our attention since publication of OSC, both of which have largely white backgrounds. It still remains that the more birds in the scene (particularly perched birds) and the bluer the background, the more desirable the salt. But all of these are so rare that they will likely be in the \$3,500 to \$4,000 range... if you can find one.



Figure 11 – A recent Rain Scene acquisition with strong pink undertones.



Figure 14 – A landscape to beat all landscapes! This desert oasis features palm trees and unusual buildings. A very rare find!

Figure 12 – This wonderful water scene with landscape in the background features a gondola, making this an extremely rare Daum Nancy salt. The photo shows nicely the mottled yellow layer of glass between the clear or opal layers.



Figure 15 – The purple background on this Daum Summer scene makes it highly unusual.



Figure 13 – This is perhaps the only known example of a Daum Spring Scene salt with pink trees in the background.





Figure 16 –This Spring Scene has a decidedly pink background, with a layer of mottled pink glass between the opal and clear layers.



Figure 18 – Another beautiful winter scene salt with deep red background.



Figure 17 – As noted in The Compendium, all covered Daum salts are rare. This gorgeous Winter Scene with snow laden trees extending from the vessel onto the lid is perhaps the rarest known Winter Scene. The yellow handles add to the charm of the piece.



Figure 19 – This Summer Scene salt is almost magical with its green grass, golden hay, and bright blue sky.



Figure 20 – The piece de resistance of Winter Scene salts is this wonderful example of a Village Scene with multiple buildings in drifts of snow.

As with the scenic form, floral Daum Nancy salts will vary greatly in price and desirability based on the flowers depicted. Shown here are some of Wilf and Dolli Cohen's favorite floral form salts, prized for their rarity.



Figure 21 – The deep mottled greens and browns form the perfect background for the bright orange and red fruit in this lovely Daum Nancy salt.



Figure 22 – Prized for both the unusual berries of the subject and the beautifully executed cameo signature, this floral is simply gorgeous!



Figure 23 – Apple blossoms on a delicate yellow and pink background make for a special salt indeed.

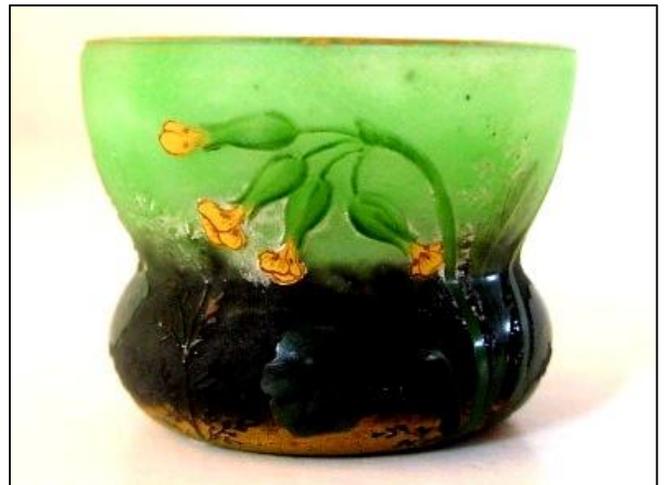


Figure 24 – Unusual in both form and color, this salt features yellow blooms on a background of both dark and light green.



Figure 25 – While we can't confirm it, this handsome orange flower appears to be a be an orchid.



Figure 26 – Perhaps the rarest of all Daum Nancy salts is this one featuring whimsical mushrooms on a bright yellow ground. This is yet another salt that we recommend you buy first and ask the price later because you may never have the opportunity again in your lifetime.



Figure 28 – If a collector could have just one example of a Daum Nancy salt in her collection, wouldn't this pert fuchsia bloom with all its happy colors be the perfect choice?



Figure 27 – Delicate mottled yellow and pale pink form the perfect backdrop for the rare Daum pinecones as they cling tenuously to a limb nearly devoid of needles.



Figure 29 – Red poppies pop on a bright yellow ground.



Figure 30 – A sunflower on a mottled purple ground.



Figure 31 – As discussed in OSC, violets are among the most desirable of all Daum florals, and this beautiful example offers them in spades!

Noted sales of Daum floral salts since the publication of The Compendium include the following:



Figure 34 - Cyclamen, sold by Phillip Chasen for \$2,000



Figures 32 (above) and 33 (below) – Frosted berries in cameo on acid etched backgrounds, the pink example with a delicate and decorative silver rim.



Figure 35 - Unknown flower sold at Jeffrey Evans Auction for \$2,280



Figure 36 - Unknown flower sold at auction for \$1,700 plus buyer's premium



Figure 39 – While not a salt, this small pillow vase shows the rare and coveted Daum Swan decoration. Should you ever find this decoration on an open salt, count yourself blessed and lucky!

Figures 37 (above) and 38 (below) – Two examples of the very rare Daum Fable salts. The first featuring the fable of the Mouse and the Oyster, and the second an unknown fable. Note the Daum miniature shown to the right of the salt in Figure 37. While not a salt, doesn't it display beautifully among them?



Figure 40 – While not a Daum salt, this is French cameo glass, this example by Schneider. It features a baby bird emerging from an egg.

The authors are greatly indebted to Wilfred and Dolli Cohen for photographing and sharing the vast majority of Daum Nancy salts included in this article. Their eye for rare and beautiful art glass and their generosity with their knowledge is legendary. We thank them!

Salts She Wrote

By Mary Kern

The first convention I attended was in San Francisco in 2001. I pretty much had to go, I mean it was just up the street and around the corner from Sandy Eggo. There was a table in the main gathering room that one could put a salt on that you had a question about. I brought 2 or 3 if my memory serves me right, which would be the first time in a long time that it has. I was a newbie to



Figure 1 – The Hoffman Salt

the world of Organized Salt Collectors and knew 3 people by name only. Donna Wolfe and Ed and Kay Berg. Yep, I know that is a very good start for an unknown up and coming collector. You might be able to imagine my glee watching Kay pick up one of my salts in question. She held it and held it and held it. I knew right away she was an intelligent and passionate woman as the salt she was so taken with was my first black glass piece.

In 15 years, I have branched out just a bit. Not only in my activities in organized salt collecting, but also in my collection of black glass. There does seem to be a bit of a shortage of black glass salts, so I feel a deep sense of gratitude that I have been



Figure 2 – Hoffman Salt, side view

able to collect the limited amount I have. When I look at my black shelf I realize how absolutely uplifting the color can be. I have keep my dark obsession to glass only, though at one time I did have several pieces of Basalt. I am into singleness of purpose on most of my shelves.

There were no answers for me about the salt I had brought to the convention, but about 5 years ago, I found it pictured in one of the Clark Brown books. I was delighted to have at least seen



Figure 3 – Black glass salt in an Ormolu stand set with Turquoise stones.

it in a book even though no information was given. Then earlier this year I posted it on one of the web sites, or was it a chat board? Memory failure right when I need it the most. Basically, where I posted

it does not matter, but what I found out does. Nice save Mary. Debi Raitz identified it as a Hoffman piece. She had seen it in a catalog but with jewels



Figure 4 – Intaglio Elk in an Ormolu Frame

on the sides. Once she told me, I could see where the jewels would have been applied on the sides. Okay so it is a Hoffman and had jewels, perhaps it is part of a dresser set. Not really, it may have started out that way, but having rested on my Open Salt shelf for, at the minimum 15 years, it is definitely a salt.



Figure 5 – Black Glass bowl in an Ormolu Columnar Frame

Hope you enjoy looking at my dark side and if you have some unusual black glass salts and would like to give others a chance to drool, please send me pictures and we will get them in the next issue.



Figure 6 – Shallow bowl on a Jeweled Stand



Figure 8 – Three Dolphin with intertwined tails supporting a salt cup.



Figure 6 – Black Intaglio Salts



Figure 8 – Reverse side of Hunt Scene Intaglio Salt.



Figure 7 – Reverse side of Psyche intaglio salt



Figure 5 – Reverse of black intaglio salt with winged figure blowing bubbles.



Figure 8 – Black glass salt in a Brass Squirrel Holder



Figure 9 – White horse jumping over a black glass salt.

Carved Rock Salt Open Salts

By Elizabeth Jane Koble

These popular salts are actually made of real salt – carved from finely grained rock salt. Artists have been making these carvings for many years. Some were made to hold small perfume bottles or sachets. DeMarsay, Inc., and Blossom Bloom Sterling Perfumers, New York, were two of the companies who put their products in rock salt animals. Salts, though, have been made mainly from the 1930's through the 1950's in Italy.

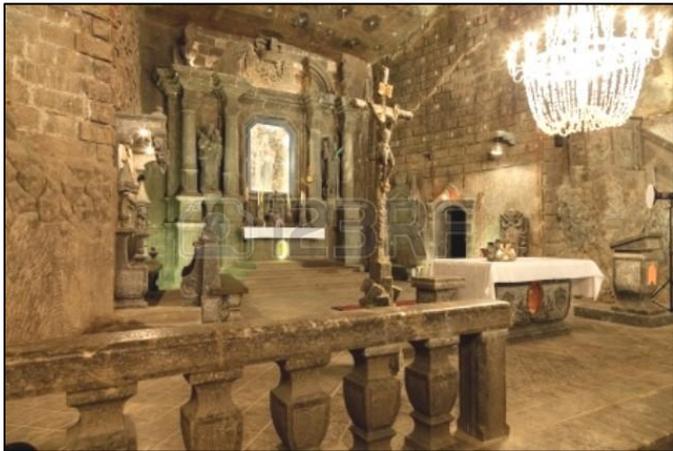


Figure 1 – St. Kinga’s Chapel in the Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine, Poland.

Some pieces were even signed with a carved signature or a paper label. Also popular during this period were the busts of composers often given as gifts by piano teachers to their students.

Probably the most impressive example of carved rock salt is the Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine in the Kraków metropolitan area of Poland. It is a UNESCO

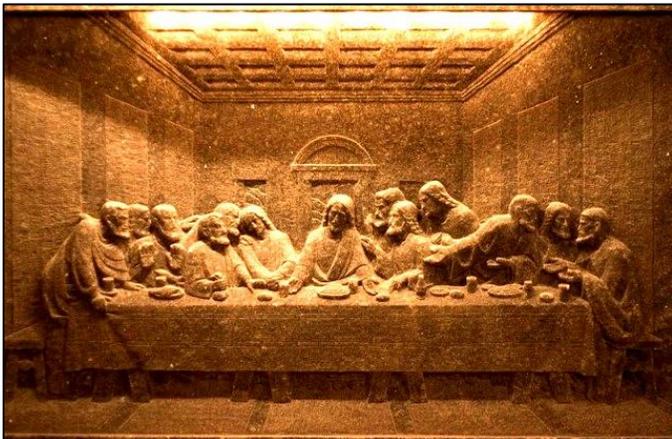


Figure 2 – Leonardo’s Last Supper, the Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine, Poland

World Heritage site. The mine, run by the Zupy Krakowskie Salt Mines Company, produced table salt from the 13th Century through 1996. Production was discontinued in that year because of low salt prices and flooding. Inside are dozens of statues and four chapels which were carved by the miners (figure 1 and 2). There are also newer statues carved by contemporary artists. It

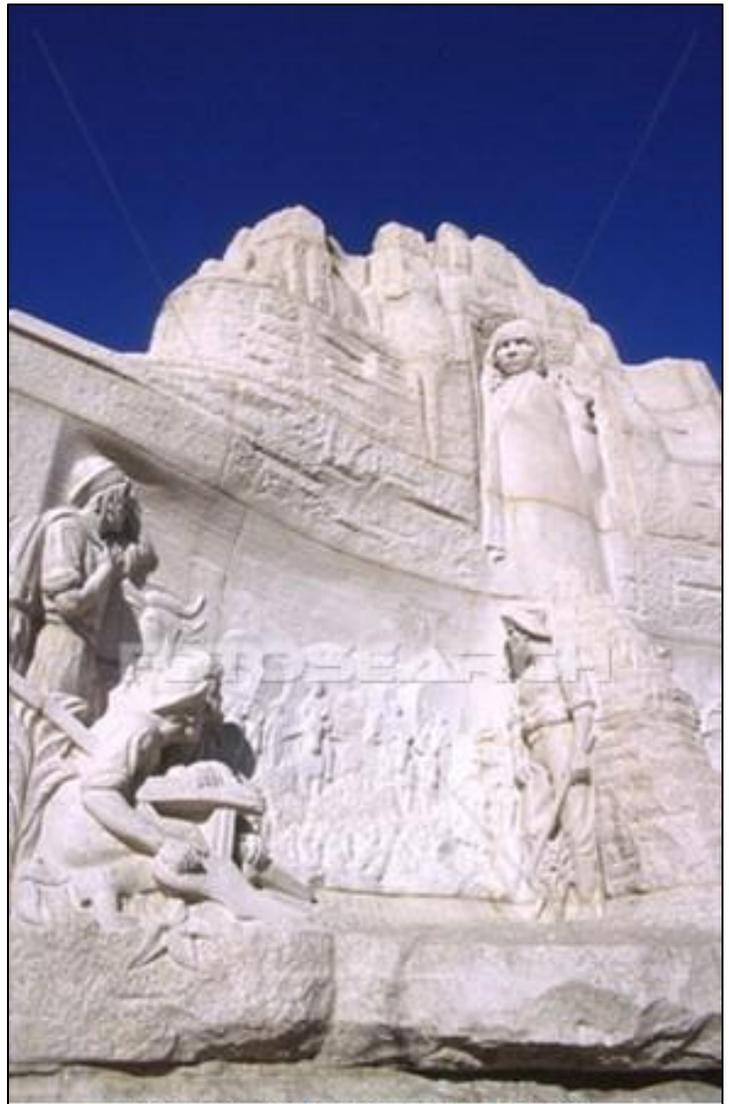


Figure 3 – Figures carved from Rock Salt, Utah

was named one of Poland’s Historic Monuments in 1994. The mine served as inspiration for Boleslaw Prus in his description of an ancient Egyptian labyrinth in his historic novel *Pharaoh* written in 1878.

Do Not Wash!

These pieces often appear dirty when you find them. DO NOT be tempted to wash them as they will dissolve. A light brushing with a damp (old!) toothbrush will remove some of the dirt.

Photographs also from the collections of Sue Sawyer and Mary Kern.

Bibliography

<http://ths.gardenweb.com/discussions/2243568/figurine-made-from-salt>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wieliczka_Salt_Mine



Figure 6 – Dancing Rabbits Salt



Figure 4 - Royal Lion Salt Figure



Figure 7 – Goat with baskets double salt made of salt.



Figure 5 - Mother Elephant and Baby Salt Figure



Figure 8 – Rock Salt Swan Open Salt.



Figure 9 - A variety of Dog Salt cellars carved from Rock Salt.



Figure 10 – Scottie Salt



Figure 12 – Dancing Rabbits Colored



Figure 13 – Chinese Children



Figure 11 – Turkey Salt



Figure 14 – More Salt Figures, Dogs, Cats playing, and Girl with a cat.

Displays Outside the Curio Cabinet

We love suggestions for articles, especially when they turn out as well as this one did and perhaps with a promising future of more input from other collectors. The question that was raised and has been so brilliantly answered was: "What other ways are you displaying your salts besides the conventional curio cabinet?" We were happy to see some rather ingenious "display stands" and shelving arrangements. To be able to take an antique piece and use it to display antique pieces is a win/win situation. Hope you enjoy the pictures and we would love to have this article continue in future issues, so please take pictures of your displays and shelving arrangements and send them in. This time think inside the box and outside the curio cabinet.

Nancy Villaverda:



Fenton Art Glass Company salts or nut cups on a Teaberry gum stand. You can see the Teaberry name on the stand base

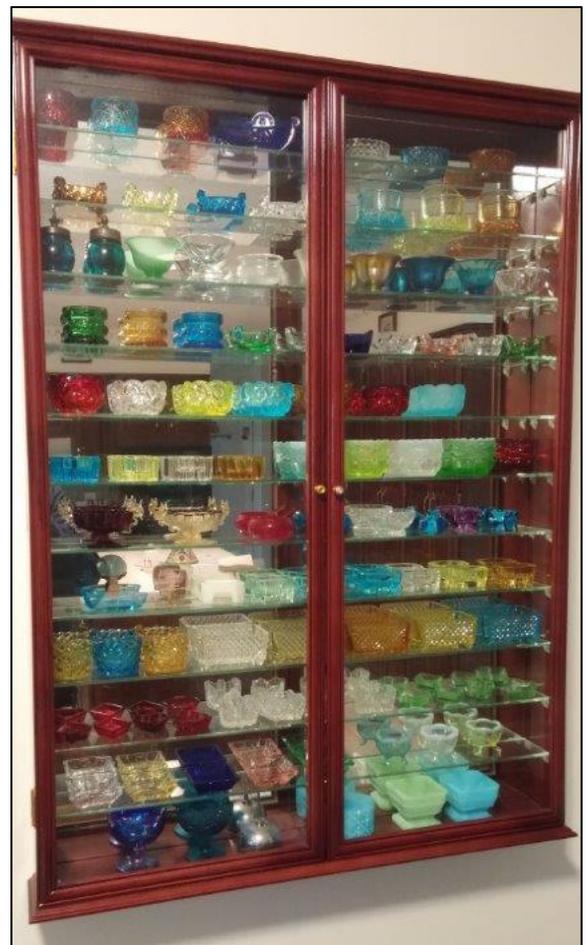


Monroe/Mt. Washington salts displayed nicely on a smoking stand



This is an unusual McKee condiment holder, center post with toothpick holder in blue. Blue salts look nice on it.

Judy Johnson:



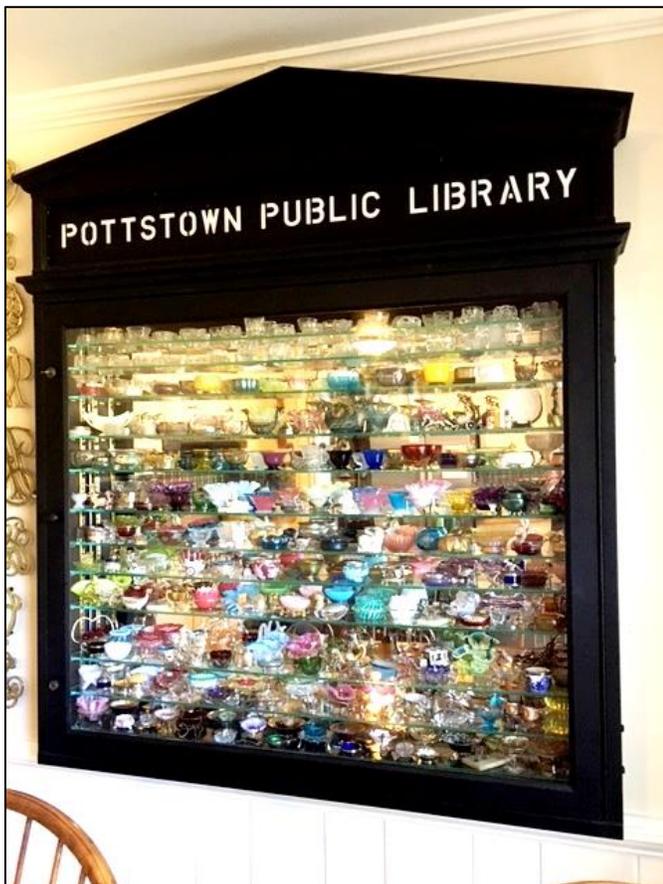
Judy's cabinet was made for Shot Glasses but it is perfect for her colored glass salt collection.



Judy's Golf ball display case – a perfect size for her individual glass salts.



Nina Robertson: This was a store display case for pocket knives. It has a punched tin Indian back. So that we can enjoy the Indian, I only put clear glass salts in this case. But I love it anyway!



Nina Robertson: More than 20 years after converting the Pottstown Public Library case to a salt display I saw this handsome oak variety... even larger in both height and width... in an antique mall in Adamstown. I dragged Barry back to see if he could convert it to a salt cabinet as well. Obviously, he said he could. But he had to divide the case into two vertical sections because the glass shelves would have had to be too thick to survive the span otherwise. I like the effect. But I have to admit that the weight of the door on this massive case makes me not want to go into and out of this cabinet with any regularity.

Nancy Dietel:



One of two cabinets made by her son, Ken, a master woodworker. Each contains 12 drawers.



The Colored Glass Drawer

The Salters Company 500th Anniversary Salt
Continued from page 1



Detail showing the Salter's Company Coat of arms which dates from 1530 and features 3 covered Salt Cellars.

On a personal note, I am quite honored to have this salt in my collection. There are some companies that commissioned salt cellars to be made, but to have one from a company actually in the salt business is a bonus. It is one of the most magnificent pieces of sterling I have seen.

Bibliography

THE SALTERS' COMPANY 1394-1994 by Hugh Barty-Kin



Detail showing cartouche with the inscription