

## IMPERIAL, THE BEGINNING OF NEW

BY SCOTT ACKERMAN

### COLORS

CARNIVAL COLOR NAMES CAN BE CONFUSING IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT COLOR THEY REPRESENT, AND THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THE COLORS. SO WITH MY HELP, YOU SHOULD KNOW THE COLORS OF IMPERIAL CARNIVAL. I LIKE THE NAMES IMPERIAL USED, AND HOPE THEY BECOME AS COMMON AS THE GLASS THEY MADE.

THE FIRST TWO COLORS WERE MADE AT THE SAME TIME PERIOD, BETWEEN 1965-1972. LIMITED EDITIONS COULD HAVE BEEN MADE AT ANY DATE. ONE OF THE COLORS WAS CALLED RUBIGOLD. IT IS THE ORANGE COLOR THAT MOST PEOPLE CALL MARIGOLD. IT IS CLEAR GLASS WITH ORANGE IRIDESCENCE. IT IS FAIRLY COMMON AS A COLOR AND SHOULD NOT BRING TOP DOLLARS, IN MOST CASES. ABOUT 105 DIFFERENT SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE OTHER COLOR MADE BETWEEN 1965-1972 IS CALLED PEACOCK. IT IS COMMONLY CALLED SMOKEY. PEACOCK IS CLEAR GLASS WITH A GRAY IRIDESCENCE THAT HAS YELLOW AND PINK PREDOMINATING. IT CAN BE VERY LIGHT TO VERY DEEP IN COLOR. IT IS MORE COMMON THAN RUBIGOLD AND AGAIN SHOULD NOT BRING TOP DOLLARS, IN MOST CASES. ABOUT 95 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE THIRD COLOR THAT IMPERIAL MADE WAS CALLED HELIOS GREEN. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1967-1970. HELIOS GREEN GLASS IS DARK GREEN WITH SILVER AND GOLD IRIDESCENCE APPLIED. IT ISN'T SILVER AND GOLD IRIDESCENCE IT ISN'T HELIOS GREEN. HELIOS GREEN IS THE COLOR THAT PEOPLE DIDN'T LIKE BECAUSE IT WAS TOO MUCH LIKE THE OLD CARNIVAL SO THEY DIDN'T MAKE IT TOO LONG. MOST PIECES OF HELIOS GREEN BRING A NICE PRICE AND SOME BRING TOP DOLLARS, WHEN FOUND. TRYING TO FIND HELIOS GREEN TODAY IS LIKE TRYING TO FIND RED IN OLD CARNIVAL. IT IS ONE OF THE TOP TWO COLORS IN NEW CARNIVAL. ABOUT 30 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE FOURTH COLOR TO BE MADE BY IMPERIAL WAS CALLED SUNSET RUBY. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1968-1973. SUNSET RUBY IS RED OR AMERINA COLORED GLASS THAT IS IRIIDIZED. PURE RED IS WHAT SOME PEOPLE SEARCH FOR, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT IMPERIAL INTENDED THAT ALL SUNSET RUBY BE PURE RED, SO DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED IF SOME OF YOURS HAVE A BIT OF YELLOW OR ORANGE COLOR IN THEM. SUNSET RUBY IS SOMEWHAT HARD TO FIND, BUT IF YOU WANT IT, IT IS AVAILABLE. ABOUT 30 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE FIFTH COLOR THAT CAME OUT OF IMPERIAL'S FACTORY WAS CALLED AZURE BLUE. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1969-1970. AZURE BLUE IS A LIGHT ICE BLUE COLORED GLASS THAT IS IRIIDIZED. IT IS OFTEN CONFUSED WITH ANOTHER COLOR THAT I WILL COVER LATER. THE BEST WAY TO TELL AZURE BLUE IS TO LOOK AT THE MARKING. IF IT IS I.G., IT IS AZURE BLUE. IF IT IS L.I.G., IT ISN'T. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS THE FIELD FLOWER WATER SET. AZURE BLUE AND HELIOS GREEN ARE AT THIS TIME THE TWO BEST COLORS. AZURE BLUE WAS A SHORT-LIVED COLOR AND WILL BRING TOP DOLLARS 99% OF THE TIME. ABOUT 35 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE NEXT COLOR TO COME FROM IMPERIAL WAS AURORA JEWELS. IT IS COMMONLY CALLED COBALT BLUE. IT IS A DEEP BLUE GLASS WITH A RAINBOW IRIDESCENCE. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1970-1972. IT IS NOT FOUND EASILY AND MANY OF THE PIECES BRING A HIGH PRICE. ABOUT 35 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

## IMPERIAL, THE BEGINNING OF NEW BY SCOTT ACKERMAN - CONTINUED

THE SEVENTH COLOR THAT MADE ITS WAY FROM IMPERIAL WAS AMBER. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1973-1975. AMBER IS A BROWN COLORED GLASS THAT IS IRIDIZED. AMBER IS QUITE HARD TO FIND AND MAY SOMEDAY BE ONE OF THE TOP COLORS. ABOUT 40 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE EIGHTH COLOR THAT IMPERIAL MADE WAS WHITE. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1974-1976. WHITE IS CLEAR GLASS THAT HAS BEEN FROSTED AND THEN IRIDIZED. FROM WHAT I HAVE DISCOVERED, IMPERIAL MADE TWO DIFFERENT WHITES. THE LATER ONE WAS MORE FROSTED. IN COLLECTING, I WOULD ONLY CONSIDER ONE WHITE BECAUSE I CAN HARDLY SEE ANY OR MUCH DIFFERENCE. ABOUT 35 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

TO CONTINUE THE COLOR WHEEL OF IMPERIAL CARNIVAL GLASS, WE COME TO THE NEXT COLOR AFTER WHITE, WHICH IS PINK. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME PINK WAS REALLY USED IN CARNIVAL TO ANY EXTENT. PINK WAS MADE BETWEEN 1978-1981. IT IS A LIGHT COLORED GLASS THAT THE NAME NICELY DESCRIBES. PINK WILL PROBABLY BE A LONG TIME IN BRINGING HIGH PRICES, AND FOR ME, IT IS NOT TOO EASILY FOUND. OVER 50 DIFFERENT SHAPES ARE KNOWN IN PINK.

AFTER PINK, IMPERIAL MADE HORIZON BLUE BETWEEN 1979-1980. HORIZON BLUE IS A LIGHT ICE BLUE COLORED IRIDIZED GLASS. IT IS OFTEN CONFUSED WITH AZURE BLUE, BUT DOESN'T NEED TO BE. WHAT WAS MADE IN ONE COLOR WASN'T MADE IN THE OTHER. SO, IF YOU LEARN THE SHAPES AND PATTERNS IN EACH, IT SHOULD BE EASY. ALSO, THERE IS ONE OTHER WAY TO LEARN THE DIFFERENCE. LOOK AT THE MARKING. L.I.G. IS HORIZON BLUE. THE FIELD FLOWER WATER SET THAT I LISTED WITH AZURE BLUE HAS L.G., ALTHOUGH IT WAS MADE AFTER AZURE BLUE WAS MADE BUT BEFORE HORIZON BLUE CAME OUT. ABOUT 25 DIFFERENT SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

THE ELEVENTH COLOR THAT IMPERIAL MADE WAS MEADOW GREEN. IT WAS MADE BETWEEN 1980-1981. THE BEST WAY TO DESCRIBE IT IS THAT IT IS A LIGHT BUT BRIGHT GREEN GLASS WHICH HAS NO YELLOWNESS TO IT. IT IS A VERY HARD COLOR TO FIND AND MAY SOMEDAY CLIMB NEAR THE TOP OF THE LADDER IN PRICE. ABOUT 30 SHAPES ARE KNOWN IN MEADOW GREEN.

THE NEXT COLOR TO BE MADE AT IMPERIAL AFTER MEADOW GREEN WAS PURPLE. IT WAS MADE IN 1981 TO JUNE 26. PURPLE IS SELF DESCRIPTIVE. ALL OF THE PURPLE I'VE SEEN ARE QUITE DARK AND WELL IRIDIZED. PURPLE WAS A VERY SHORT-LIVED COLOR AND IS VERY DIFFICULT TO FIND. I FEEL IT WILL BRING TOP DOLLARS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ABOUT 20 SHAPES ARE KNOWN IN PURPLE.

NOW WE COME TO THE LAST MAIN COLOR THAT IMPERIAL PRODUCED, SUNBURST. IT WAS MADE IN 1982. SUNBURST IS A YELLOW GLASS SOMEWHAT LIKE VASELINE, BUT DARKER YELLOW AND WITHOUT ANY GREENNESS IN IT. IT HASN'T BEEN AROUND VERY LONG AND SO FAR IT ISN'T SEEN VERY OFTEN, NOR DO I THINK IT WILL BE. ABOUT 35 SHAPES ARE KNOWN.

IN ADDITION TO THE 13 MAIN COLORS, IMPERIAL CAME OUT WITH SOME OTHER COLORS THAT WERE NEVER MADE IN LARGE NUMBERS OR FOR LONG PERIODS. THEY WERE MOSTLY LIMITED EDITIONS, EXPERIMENTAL OR THE LIKE. MANY OF THESE COLORS I HAVE NEVER SEEN, SO I CAN'T SAY TOO MUCH ABOUT THEM.

## IMPERIAL, THE BEGINNING OF NEW - BY SCOTT ACKERMAN - CONTINUED

ANOTHER COLOR IS CALLED ULTRA BLUE. IT WAS MADE IN THE 474 WATER SET. I WOULD SAY IT IS A MEDIUM SHADE OF BLUE.

ANOTHER COLOR IS ELECTRIC BLUE. IT WAS MADE IN THE LION COVERED BOX WITH A DIFFERENT BASE THAN FOUND ON RUBIGOLD AND PEACOCK. I WOULD CALL IT A BRIGHT BLUE, BUT NOT HAVING SEEN IT I CAN'T REALLY SAY.

IMPERIAL TRIED TO MAKE A COUPLE OF BOWLS IN VASELINE, BUT FOR SOME REASON NOT MANY WERE PRODUCED. VASELINE IS A GREENISH YELLOW GLASS, AND CAN VARY IN THE AMOUNT OF GREEN OR YELLOW. I HAVEN'T SEEN EITHER SO I CAN'T SAY WHAT SHADE OF VASELINE THE BOWLS ARE.

STILL ANOTHER COLOR IS A LIGHT GREEN THAT SOME PEOPLE CALL ICE GREEN. I DON'T LIKE THE TERM ICE GREEN FOR THIS COLOR BECAUSE IT HAS TOO MUCH YELLOW IN IT, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO CALL IT VASELINE. IT WAS MADE IN THE ROBIN WATER SET.

ANOTHER COLOR THAT WAS MADE IN THE FLUTE ANAHEIM SALT DIP, GOD AND HOME MUG AND BEADED OVAL MUG IS BLUE. THE BEST WAY TO DESCRIBE IT IS THAT IT IS A LIGHT BUT VERY BRIGHT BLUE GLASS.

IN 1981, IMPERIAL CAME OUT WITH THREE (3) COVERED ANIMALS IN A COLOR CALLED CRYSTAL, WHICH IS A GOOD NAME BECAUSE THE GLASS DOESN'T SEEM TO BE FROSTED AT ALL.

THERE ARE TWO (2) PLATES IN YELLOW WHICH I HAVE NEVER SEEN AND CAN ONLY SAY THAT THEY BOTH ARE A SHADE OF YELLOW.

ANOTHER PLATE IS FOUND IN A COLOR CALLED VERDE. I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT, BUT IT IS A SHADE OF GREEN DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER GREENS.

AN A.C.G.A. SOUVENIR SPOONER WAS MADE IN GREEN. IT HAS A VERY REGULAR IRIDESCENCE INSTEAD OF SILVER AND GOLD. SO IT IS NOT HELIOS GREEN.

I HOPE THIS GIVES YOU A BETTER IDEA OF THE COLORS OF NEW IMPERIAL CARNIVAL GLASS. I ALSO HOPE THAT THE COMPANY NAMES WILL BE LEARNED BY COLLECTORS AND USED BY THEM IN IDENTIFYING IMPERIAL'S NEW CARNIVAL GLASS.

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### CONGRATULATIONS

MARION HILL IS NOW MRS. MARION DOLAN; YVONNE GRIMPO IS NOW MRS. YVONNE McDONOUGH; MARY AND JACK ADAMS ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR DAUGHTER WHICH I JUST FOUND OUT ABOUT AND THE BABY IS SEVERAL MONTHS OLD NOW.

LET'S HOPE THE TWO NEW HUSBANDS AND THE BABY WILL ENJOY CARNIVAL AS MUCH AS THEIR WIVES AND PARENTS.

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