

## FROM WISTERIA TO FUCHSIA 15 Years Later

(By Serge Beaudin)

On August 20th (2022) Mr. Labbé hosted our summer meeting. He had chosen as a theme to present a superb sample of his carnival glass pieces in ice blue and ice green.



Among the exhibits, he presented us with a “TANKARD” format water pitcher which he describes under the name Wisteria. He mentions that the 6 tumblers were different from the pitcher, but that they were an integral part of this set purchased about fifteen years ago at a recognized American auction.

At the time of this auction, the expert had confirmed that this pitcher and the 6 tumblers were indeed parts of the same Wisteria water set.

Laurie Wroda, member of our club attended our meeting. She noticed that this pitcher was not the Wisteria pattern and identified it as a specimen of the "FUCHSIA" pattern, while the tumblers were actually the Wisteria pattern.

M. Labbé was very surprised and somewhat disappointed, but that was short-lived as Jim Wroda added that this Fuchsia pitcher is currently the only known pitcher of this design in the color ice blue. Only one other example of this pitcher is known in white color. This additional comment engendered a broad smile and renewed pride for Mr. Labbé. Here is a photo of this unique pitcher in perfect condition. The IMBROGLIO of the difference between the pattern of the pitcher

and its 6 tumblers is finally explained **15 YEARS LATER.**



Wisteria

Fuchsia

The most surprising part of this story is that the white pitcher in the Fuchsia pattern was first exhibited at the NECGA auction on September 10, 2022. It has been identified as a prototype. It was the first time that we noticed its specific aspects and gave it its own identification.

In this same auction, there was a white Wisteria Tankard also for sale. This chance allowed us to see the differences in both patterns.

At the moment, there are no known tumblers for the Fuchsia pattern. We can however believe that it is possible that the Wisteria tumblers were associated with the Tankard Fuchsia from the initial sale by Northwood. The grouping of 6 tumblers in this pitcher would otherwise be a very surprising tour de force for such rare objects.

Here, I use a well-known expression “We learn something every day!” and this memorable day demonstrates it well.

You can also admire the photos of this new pattern, some 110 years after its production on the Hooked on Carnival site.

We would like to thank Mr. Jim Wroda and his wife for sharing their expertise to improve our knowledge.



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