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The West Virginia Museum of American Glass, Ltd.'s

**MONOGRAPH No. 38**

# **HEISEY GLASS FORMULAS – And More**

**WEST VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF AMERICAN GLASS, Ltd.  
Weston, West Virginia**

**In partnership with  
The RUBY STAIN MUSEUM  
New Orleans, LA**

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Edited by Neila Bredehoft

**T**his small work is a part of a much larger project to place glass information not in archival storage boxes but in the hands of students, collectors and dealers in glass. Only by sharing can make the necessary leaps in learning, as we all bring some piece of the puzzle. The WEST VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF AMERICAN GLASS, Ltd. (WVMAG) is committed to sharing glass information and from that conviction the Monograph Series of WVMAG was born.

The WVMAG monographs address glass topics that yet lack the wide interest to make commercially successful publishing a book, or the monographs address glass topics about which we simply do not yet know enough to commit to the more permanent form of a book. However, the series passes along vital information that in time will lead to greater interest, to greater understanding and to ultimately better writings, understanding and publications. WVMAG's monographs are endeavors in seed planting.

This specific work within the Monograph series is an amazing story of records surviving when so many others were destroyed long ago. It is the insight of the Ruby Stain Museum to acquire and preserve those records. And this small work is a wonderful story of two small museums joining together to publish and share these shards of glass history.

WVMAG is dedicated to sharing glass information BUT it asks for your respect and supports the museums work in this effort.

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<http://members.aol.com/wvmuseumofglass/>

**and**

[www.allaboutglass.org](http://www.allaboutglass.org)

*Heisey Glass Formulas*

—*And More*

**From the Papers of**

**Emmet E. Olson,**

**Heisey Chemist**

**Presented by**

**The West Virginia Museum of  
American Glass**

**in partnership with**

**The Ruby Stain Museum**

**2004**

## Foreword

Emmet E. Olson, chemist for the A. H. Heisey & Co. of Newark, OH, for over 20 years, preserved many of his private papers relating to his work at the company.

In addition to creating production colors for the Heisey company, Olson conducted extensive experiments in color in glass. He recorded many of these formulas.

Olson also acquired many formulas not used at Heisey's. Most notable is a hand-written small book, apparently from the late 1800s. It is not known from whom Olson acquired this "receipt" booklet.

In addition to creating colors, Olson's responsibilities included maintaining the quality of glass batches. In this respect, he had regular analyses done by independent companies. Analyses were also conducted on glass from other companies. Probably his most important job (with the exception of the making of colors) was establishing the cost of making glass, and, in extension, calculating the selling pieces of completed glassware.

Also included here is correspondence spanning over 40 years. Admittedly, this is related primarily only to color studies, but it is a fascinating peek into the company.

Rarely are records like this available for study. Enjoy!

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