

Hobstar Preview: February, 2012



Font of a "water lamp," engraved by Hawkes.

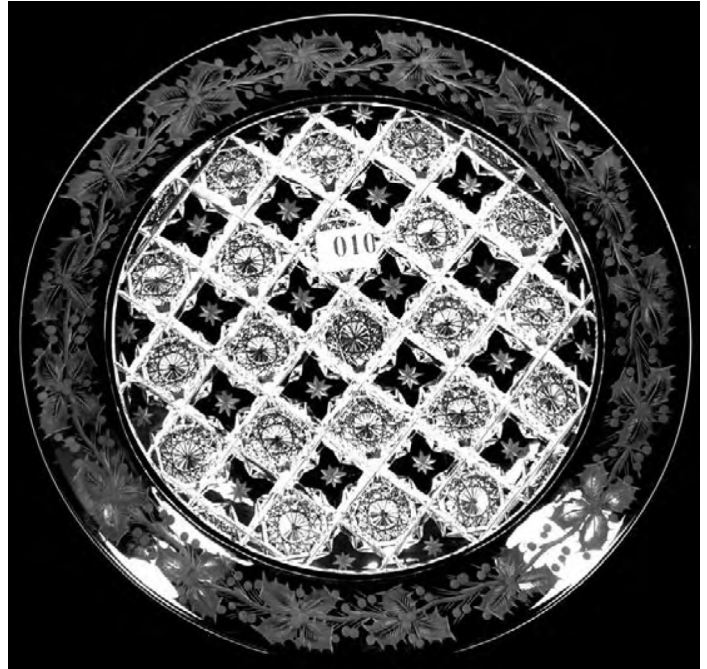
Pictured: two green cut to clear bulbous colognes cut in a slight variation of the Marlboro pattern. Pictured: pattern detail of a punchbowl cut in a slight variation of Gladys pattern, cut and signed by Hawkes. Pattern variations might be motivated by the need to differ slightly from a high-volume pattern cut by a competitor, or by accommodation to a particular shape.

The **Pattern Quiz** answer for Nov. 2011 is a single reference design, Ribbon pattern by Niagara, shown cut on a handleless figured blank nappy. Ribbon is similar to and sometimes confused with Assyrian by Sinclair. The December Quiz piece is an oddly shaped ice cream tray with two huge hobstars and beading, with accents of crosscutting, fans, rayed stars and tiny flat stars.

"The Treasures Are Still Out There." describes successful hunts resulting in three noteworthy acquisitions. The first was a thick wood polished bowl with turned out corners, cut in Essex by Dorflinger on their blank No. 256, acquired for \$45! See [Line Drawings](#) p. 85.

The second piece found is a modern cut glass round lidded "Keepsale Box" cut and signed by Pepi Hermann.

The third piece is a 10" low bowl in the Trellis pattern cut and signed by Hoare, acquired for only \$237. The Egginton version of Trellis is found much more frequently. Conclusion: really good pieces are still out there awaiting the diligent hunter!



Woody 11/19/11 Auction top price was realized by a 10" tray cut and signed by Sinclair in the very rare and unusual Snowflake and Holly pattern.

"Aquaria and Other [cut glass] Piscatorial Products" explores a rather odd functional form. In the 1880s only the very wealthy kept fish as a household hobby. By 1916-18 fishkeepers were beginning to buy glass aquaria made by Westmorland glass. Patented in 1916, a dual function piece (pictured) combines a fish aquarium with a vase.

Sinclair made and sold four cut and engraved aquaria in 1917. Around 1918 Ideal advertised a "Lamp Aquarium." A surviving Hawkes water lamp is in the Chandler collection.

The hollow fonts of combination oil/electric "water lamps" could be filled with colored water; it's not clear whether or not fish were involved with that product. The production of fancy cut and engraved novelties was pinched out by US entry into the Great War.

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