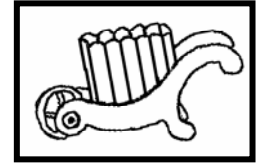


Salty Comments

Facts and Opinion about Open Salt Collecting



Number 78

March 2002

Marks On Glass Continued

We wrote about marks on glass a little over 12 years ago (SC #23 & 24, copies of both for \$1.00 and 57 cents SASE). Since then we have picked up enough new information to fill another issue. This time we will show some of the salts that go with the marks.

We have found a Steuben salt with the words "Aurene Haviland & Co." stamped in white on the bottom. This was a surprise to us when we first saw it, but have since found that Steuben had a contract to make salts for sale in Haviland stores, and marked them as such. The salt and mark are shown on the right.

An art glass producer we did not cover is Lundberg Studios. They made the salt for the 4th National Open Salt Convention in 1995. We show both the salt and the mark. Their creations are like those of Tiffany, and the book warns that "some (of their) glass has the mark ground off and a Tiffany signature added". We encountered this in a local antique mall. The Convention salt was offered for sale, but it had "L.C.T." scratched on the bottom with a diamond scribe, and a price of \$300.

Daum Nancy cameo salts are well known and very expensive. A lesser known producer of this type of glassware was Legras. We have one of their salts which we bought from Patty Johnson's collection. It is the Daum Nancy style, with acid etched sides and raised figures, but has the name "Legras" in the design. We don't know how many salts this particular firm made. They are certainly less popular than Daum ones, and don't rate a separate section in the price guides on antiques.

Crown Milano salts are well known, but only a few have marks. The ones we have seen are those of the decorators – the Smith Brothers. They came to the USA in 1855, worked for Mt. Washington, then left in 1871 to form their own decorating company. Their mark is shown at the right. We don't know how to tell whether the salt was decorated at the Mt. Washington factory or separately by the Smiths unless it has the Smith mark on the bottom..

<i>Steuben Salt</i>	<i>Aurene-Haviland Mark</i>
<i>Lundberg Convention Salt</i>	<i>Lundberg Mark</i>
<i>Legras Salt</i>	<i>Legras Mark</i>
<i>Smith Bros. Decoration</i>	<i>Smith Bros. Mark</i>

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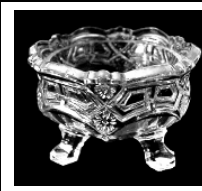




The Tiffany “L.C.T.” initials are familiar ones, though many of them were not put on at the factory. Less familiar is the paper label which Tiffany used. We are lucky to have a salt with one of these on it. We haven’t heard of any copies of these labels being made – it is evidently easier to scratch “L.C.T” on the glass if you want to deceive the customer.

Ludwig Moser of Bohemia (now the Czech Republic) is renowned for beautiful glass. This includes a number of open salts, but very few signed ones to our knowledge. We have two – both pedestals that could be called nut dishes if you were a nut dish collector. The first has a clear acid-stamped name on the bottom. It is in alexandrite, the glass that changes color when you take it from fluorescent to incandescent light. The second Moser dish we bought from Patty Johnson many years ago. It has a tiny script “Moser” scratched on the bottom - so tiny that it takes a powerful magnifying glass and very good light to detect it. We tried to take a picture of the mark, but it’s too small and too faint. We need to find out more about this one.

The Heisey CRYSTOLITE swan mold was retrieved from Boyd (SC #61) and is being sold by the Heisey Collectors society as a fund-raiser. It has a mark “HC 98 M” low on the starboard side near the stern. On our copy it is blurred, but the Boyd mark is gone.

In our previous issue on glass marks, we mentioned the U.S. Glass company one but did not have a picture of the salt. We now have two salts in their PANELLED 44 (sometimes called REVERSE 44) pattern. The one without the handles shows up in a 1915 catalog and is called “Celery Salt”. We weren’t lucky enough to find a picture of the handled one. Both have the entwined US in the bottom of the bowl, and the first has remains of platinum decoration in the pattern.

There is a modern MOON AND STARS salt-that has the Weishar mark on the bottom. Mr. Weishar owns the Island Mold Co. which makes molds for pressing glass. In 1998 an advertisement in the Glass Collectors Digest this salt was offered as a premium if you bought a certain dollar amount of books from the Antique Publications Co. Weishar subsequently advertised other “Collectible Moon and Stars Miniatures”, but we doubt the line was very successful because we haven’t heard of it since.

		
<i>Tiffany Salt</i>	<i>Tiffany Sticker</i>	
		
<i>Moser Alexandrite Salt</i>	<i>Moser Mark</i>	
		
<i>Salt with Scratched Moser Mark</i>		
		
<i>Heisey Collectors' Swan</i>		
		
<i>U.S. Glass Celery Salt</i>	<i>U.S. Glass Handled Salt</i>	<i>U.S. Glass Mark</i>
		
<i>Weishar MOON & STARS Salt</i>	<i>Weishar Mark</i>	

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Anchor Hocking is a well-known maker of glassware. All of their production is high-volume machine-made, so they have no reason to make things like open salts which have a miniscule market demand. We have a “salt” with their mark in the bottom, shown at the right. The rim has been polished, and we’re 99% sure that it started life as a juice glass. It’s the right size for a salt now – and if whoever cut it down thought he was making a salt, doesn’t it qualify? Maybe more so than the salt whose designer thought he was making a nut cup?

A mark often mistakenly attributed to Anchor Hocking is that of Hazel Atlas. The two companies have the same initials, but the latter uses an “A” sitting under the center of an “H”. We’re not sure if our Hazel Atlas dish was intended to be a salt or not, but it’s the right size.

In our previous write-up we showed the Baccarat mark which is usually acid stamped on the glass. Since then we have found a salt with the word “Baccarat” in raised capital letters inside. We have a matching double which is not marked, but there is no doubt in our minds who made it.

We have found the Joe St. Clair swan boat with several marks we had not previously seen. The J.ST.C. mark might have been put on when Joe was still alive and making glass.. After he died, the mold was sold, and copies made by Fenton for sale by the Bittersweet Glass Co. These have the Bittersweet mark on the bottom and the Fenton mark inside the bowl.

Pairpoint. has made a number of small freehand glass pieces.. The individual sugars in Peachblow and Burmese colors are sold as salts when the matching cream pitcher is missing. They have made a freehand one which has both their P-in-a-diamond and a sticker on the bottom. This was made for the New England club who sold it as a fundraiser.

	
<i>Anchor Hocking “Salt”</i>	<i>Anchor Hocking Mark</i>
	
<i>Hazel Atlas Salt?</i>	<i>Hazel Atlas Mark</i>
	
<i>Baccarat Single</i>	<i>Baccarat Mark</i>
	
<i>Swan Boat</i>	<i>J.ST.C. Mark</i>
	
<i>Bittersweet Mark</i>	<i>Fenton Mark</i>
	
<i>Pairpoint Burmese</i>	<i>Pairpoint Peachblow</i>
	
<i>Pairpoint Freehand</i>	<i>Pairpoint Sticker</i>

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Vitrix is a glass shop on the main street of Corning, NY. They make freehand glassware, mostly vases, perfume bottles and similar items to sell to the tourist trade. In the mid 1980's, they made a batch of ruby color heart shaped salts which have the Vitrix name and the date scratched into the bottom. Vitrix also made several salts when our 1995 National Convention was held in Corning. These also have the name and date on the bottom.

In our last discussion of glass marks, we knew of only one salt made by Pepi Herrmann of Guilford, New Hampshire. Since then he has made the Convention salt for the 1993 gathering in Wilmington, and has made a different shape for the New England club to sell as a fund raiser. This latter one was cut in amber or amethyst cased glass as well as in crystal. All have his "Pepi" signature scratched into the glass. He earlier tried a transparent label with his name on it, but we have not seen this on the more recent salts.

Finally, we have not covered the marking system used by the British for glass and pottery designs. If you want the details, look in the Kovels' book listed in the references. It is a book on porcelain and pottery marks, but it is the best one on its subject and you ought to have a copy. On page 238 they show the two English systems used to mark patented designs. The first was used before 1883, and has a diamond shape with numbers or letters around it. The loop at the top tells the material – III is glass. The letters and numbers in the corners of the diamond tell the month, day and year that the design was registered. Kovels' book gives you the interpretation of these. After 1883, the British switched to a numbering system, with "Rd" followed by the registry number. As a rough guide, their count reached 145,000 in 1890, 360,000 in 1900, 560,000 in 1910, and 675,000 in 1920. The book gives a list of the range of numbers for each year since the system was started. The pictures to the right show both types of marks.

We hope you have many glass salts that are marked. For us, knowing the source makes the salt more interesting and helps in our never-ending search to learn more about these fascinating dishes.

	
<i>Vitrix Heart</i>	<i>Vitrix Mark</i>
	
<i>1995 Vitrix Salt</i>	<i>Pepi Herrmann Convention Salt</i>
	
<i>Pepi Herrmann Label</i>	<i>Pepi Herrmann NESOSC Fund Raiser</i>
	
<i>British Registry Mark before 1883</i>	<i>British Registry Mark after 1882</i>

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References:

- "Glass Signatures, Trademarks, and Trade Names", by Anne Geffken Pullin
- "Kovels' New Dictionary of Marks – Pottery and Porcelain", by Ralph & Terry Kovel