

Hobstar Preview: September, 2010



12" champagne jug cut by Straus in their rare **Planeta** pattern. The shape is shown in the ACGA 1893 Straus catalog.

"Announcing the New ACGA Facebook Page and Steps for the Novice User," by Pat MacDonald. The ACGA has set up a new page on Facebook as an additional method of getting our message and information out to members and to the public. This supplemental resource can be used to post announcements, events, information, photos, videos, links to other websites, and to initiate discussion topics that are open to comments by anyone. The page is also useful as a forum for questions to the Pattern Identification Committee and/or the Pattern Matching Committee. Users can post a photo of a mystery piece of cut glass and ask for ID assistance.

"The Horror of the Figured Blank, Discussion of Figured Blanks—Article 5," by LindaJo Hare. The Libbey Company aggressively pursued new glass manufacturing technologies. Exploiting the mechanical genius of Michael Owens, they develop numerous processes and improvements that benefited the Libbey Glass Company. Fry subsequently purchased the Owens' patent for pressing and fire-polishing blanks for cutting. Even though this patent Many experts think that the Libbey Company had been

quietly working on development of the process for at least several years prior to the process being patented and offered for to sale to the trade.

Why would Libbey sell this important patent to competitor glass company Fry? The likely reason was that Libbey was already using more refined methods of creating figured blanks. Libbey cut glass of this era has a great reputation for clarity of the blank, color of the blank, and quality of the cutting. Libbey had "moved up" to a successor technology, finding a means to financially benefit from (what was to them) an obsolete technology.



Dorflinger **Montrose** pattern green cut to clear vase, one of over sixty pieces advertised for sale by www.criticalglas.com.

"Where Is the Collection Now?" by Elaine Wilson reports that the ACGA cut glass collection formerly displayed at the Forsyth Museum on the Texas A&M campus has been temporarily put into storage. The Forsyth Museum will be closed for about three years, so the ACGA is seeking a new museum home for the ACGA cut glass collection.

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