

## Hobstar Preview: December, 2011



The “**Universe**” pattern of the American Cut Glass Co. is primarily made up of plain button hobstars grouped in clusters of five. This pentagonal dish has thirty plain button hobstars.

“**Looking at the Minutia in Cut Glass Patterns**” by LindaJo Hare presents an in-depth discussion of plain button hobstars, which have clear, polished centers with no decoration. Plain button hobstars can feature as few as five points, and some examples were cut with more than forty points.



A tiny plain button 8-point hobstar cut onto the hob of a larger 8-point hobstar is featured at the point of the vesica in the well known **Chrysanthemum** pattern by Hawkes.

“**Steuben Glass Closes**” by John Kohut reports that the 108-year-old glassmaker is shutting down its factory in Corning, N.Y., and its flagship store on Madison Avenue in Manhattan. The cause of the company’s demise was a waning appetite for fancy crystal that was exacerbated by the recent economic recession.

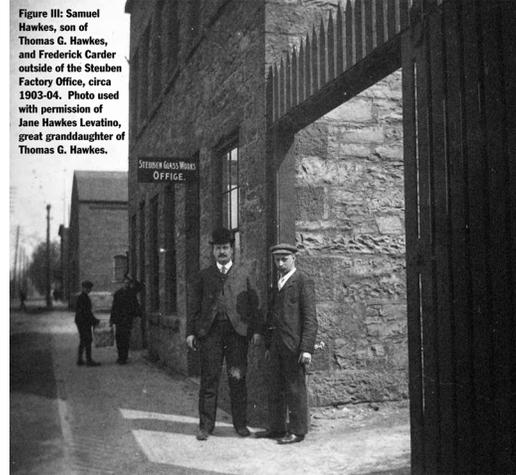


Figure III: Samuel Hawkes, son of Thomas G. Hawkes, and Frederick Carder outside of the Steuben Factory Office, circa 1903-04. Photo used with permission of Jane Hawkes Levatino, great granddaughter of Thomas G. Hawkes.

Steuben’s glass furnace was shut down earlier in 2011 and was an accurate harbinger of things to come. In recent months, glass for production has come from small freestanding furnaces on the factory floor.

in some ways, Steuben was one of the last vestiges of the talented individuals who over a century ago were producing our much-loved American Brilliant Cut Glass. Their talented employees were basically cutting, engraving and polishing glass - just as it was done over one hundred years ago.

“**Where Did The Blanks Come From, The Answer To The Question**” By Lorraine Murillo analyzes financial records, correspondence and trade publications to determine blank suppliers, listed for each of the major American cutting houses.

A four page advertising section in this edition presents several dozen outstanding pieces of cut glass offered for sale by Vanderbilt & Morgan. The first page includes a Clark **Mercedes** punch bowl with matching ladle, and a magnificent pair of 21” tall Hawkes candelabra, each with five lights.

Want to see all twenty pages and lots more cut glass photos in this edition? [Join the ACGA](#) to receive monthly Hobstar issues. Members also have worldwide access to the wealth of cut glass knowledge in our catalogs and online Hobstar archives, which present every issue published since 1978.