

Hobstar Preview: April, 2014

This issue contains several illustrated articles that include blatant elements of “April Foolery.” Readers are cautioned that each should be considered in that light. Put on your Fool Hats, please!



Unusual “Jack in the Pulpit” style carafe or water bottle with a flaring ruffled rim. The neck is cut in two bands of beaded flutes separated by a ring of hollow diamond. The bottle has a ring of diamonds alternately cut in crosscutting or crosscut diamond. Beneath are vertical prisms. Neither the blank supplier nor the pattern are presently known.



“Peculiar Snake Lay-Down Snake Cologne,” by Rob Smith describes a double-ended clear glass snake-shaped lay down cologne. Silver slip-on caps are marked Gorham, and conceal little fitted glass stoppers. 16” long. cut all over in coarse diamond-point design. Two cologne sections are each accessed via a ground glass stopper beneath a sterling silver snake head. Each snake head is worked in scales, has a tongue, and is signed Gorham. On the larger end, the eyes are red glass or stones, and on the smaller end, the eyes are green stones.

“American Brilliant Cut Glass Boilermaker Sets in the Hoare Monarch and Croesus Patterns,” by Rob & Val Smith. A Boilermaker is a classic American cocktail consisting of a shot of whiskey and a beer,

served (respectively) in a whiskey tumbler (or “shot glass”) and a beer mug or glass. The serving pieces used are sometimes referred to as “Boilermaker Sets.” Boilermaker sets in Brilliant Era cut glass are extremely rare and seldom seen. Very few were evidently made, and most of them did not survive their relatively hard usage.



Boilermaker set cut in the **Croesus** pattern by Hoare. The mug has a triple cut handle and provides 16 oz. beer capacity. The tumbler holds 3.5 oz. of whiskey.

“Collecting Affordable Oddities,” by Val & Rob Smith is a true account, but the authors made up some shape names and really have no idea what the “tall grapefruit” and “pedestal nappy” should be called. Deep pockets are not needed to build a collection of interesting and unusual oddities in Brilliant Era cut glass. The three nice pieces described and pictured were found at a recent Woody Auction.

The “**Pattern Quiz**” March 2014 piece was cut in **Thryza** by Maple City. The pattern uses a primary outline featuring the intersection of three radiating large pointed vesicas partitioned by smaller vesicas which are dominated by a large hobstar, nested around a central star defined by six triangular strawberry-diamond points anchored by a pyramidal hexagonal hobstar. On the smaller sizes the three large vesicas are truncated by the smaller vesicas. This subtlety in pattern identification illustrates the difficulty in defining a pattern when it is solely illustrated in a shape commonly entailing modification, such as a small size or an unusual shape.

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