

MOSSY COMMENTS - #5

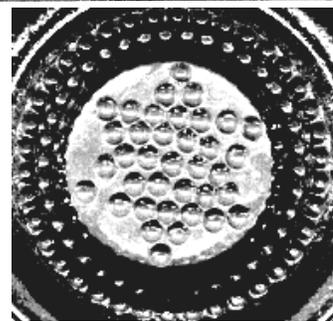
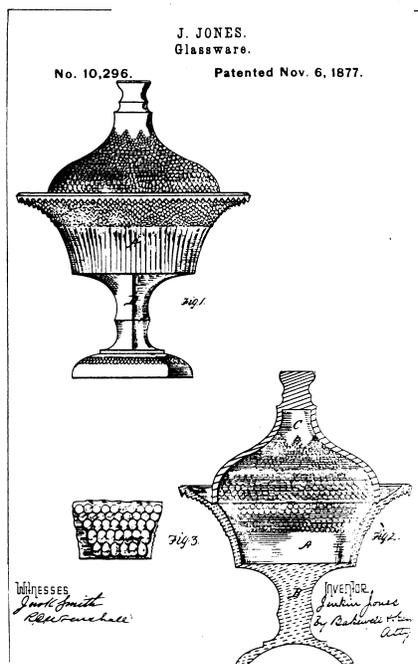
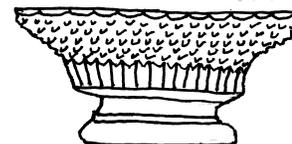
In the July Moss Memo, Ed showed a DEWDROP AND STAR salt with no scallops on the rim, It was slightly larger than the scalloped one we are all familiar with, shown at the right. We can add a little more to the picture, but have yet to get a complete story. Perhaps some of our readers can provide more clues to clarify things.

The DEWDROP WITH STAR pattern was patented in 1886, as shown in the figure on the right. The dish in the patent is a covered compote, but the pattern glass books list it in over 40 different shapes. These include a 4" sauce dish (maybe what Ed has) and a 3-1/8" open salt. The design in the patent shows a smooth rim – not scalloped. We have two colored, smooth-rim salt-size dishes in our collection.

The next source, "Identifying Pattern Glass Reproductions" by Jenks and others, says the original salt has a smooth rim, and was made only in clear. They say it was reproduced as early as 1934 with a scalloped rim. This is consistent with a scalloped rim version appearing in Clark W. Brown's book (1937) and Coddington's (1940). It shows up another time in a 1939 catalog of Clevenger glass. We are surprised that none of the old books show a smooth rim one.

One distinguishing characteristic of our smooth rim salts is a sloppy star in the bottom, shown at the right. The dots are not in neat rows, and one of the star points has its dot way out of place. We believe this identifies them as reproductions, since errors like this would not have been tolerated in the original mold.

We have been looking at scalloped-rim DEWDROP AND STAR salts for years, trying to find two that are different. The only differences we have found can be explained by sagging of the glass when the dish was taken from the mold too soon. We are beginning to believe the Jenks statement that all with scalloped rims were made in this century. If we go by the patent, we need to find a clear glass, smooth-rim, 3-1/8" diameter salt with a neatly formed star in the bottom, which will probably be the genuine old one. If you have a salt like this, we are anxious to hear about it. If you have two, we would like to buy one.



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Reference: "Identifying Pattern Glass Reproductions", by Bill Jenks, Jerry Luna and Darryl Reilly