



# VICTORIA VIEWS

fostoriaglass.com

June 2011

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## Blossomtime: Wild Rose, Stemless Daisy, or Cosmos? Consolidated Lamp and Glass Company

Could we use the old phrase "A rose by any other name...?" When Consolidated Lamp and Glass Company advertised their new pattern in the *Crockery and Glass Journal* for February 13, 1896, the pattern was labeled *Wild Rose*. This was not too much a stretch of the imagination, as one of the two flower blossoms pictured looks like a wild rose. It acquired the name *Stemless Daisy* sometime later, although the company apparently didn't use that designation. For those pieces illustrated in early ads and in the catalog illustrations below, (which were photocopied from originals in the Archives & Library at the Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Michigan, for Mel Murray's 1992 book on glass made in Fostoria, Ohio) that seemed to be appropriate for the daisy portion of the pattern. *Cosmos* is the name by which most modern collectors know this glass, but from a botanist's standpoint, it doesn't fit either. That name was in use before 1948. With all the name confusion, it is still an outstanding pattern and a favorite with many collectors. It came to be so popular that there are many similar patterns, most notably the lamps pictured below made by Fostoria Glass Company after their move to Moundsville, W. Virginia. One has the diagonal lobes like *Apple Blossom* and stems and leaves in the design, but the shape is very similar. Northwood's *Apple Blossom* is another which

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These are two of Fostoria Glass Co.'s lamps shown in a catalog which was from c. 1897. Note the similarities to Consolidated's *Cosmos* pattern. The lamp on the right is called *Marguerite*, and the other is *Mayflower*.

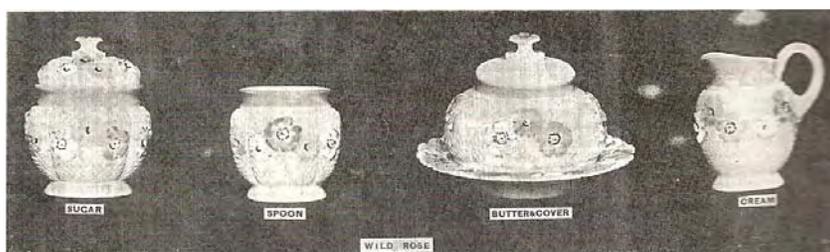


Figure 11P3 Called "Wild Rose" here; known as "Cosmos" now.



Figure 11Q3 More "Cosmos", but note "Fishnet and Poppies" on far right never before attributed.

This illustration is taken from Mel Murray's *Fostoria, Ohio, Glass II*. We have a copy in which all the pieces are on a single sheet, but it has worn areas which make it even harder to see.

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## The Glass Heritage Gallery

“A museum for the glass made in the twelve glass plants in Fostoria, Ohio.”

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## Cosmos: AKA Wild Rose or Stemless Daisy

*(Continued from page 1)*

is often confused with Cosmos. And most quality malls or shops have a piece or two of a pattern which has been labeled “Cosmos Variant.” It’s nice to be imitated. The copy from the ad mentioned above describes the glassware as “decorated opal tableware.” It goes on to read, “The above cuts do not do justice to the ware. The pretty Rococo effect is almost lost [referring to the ad], and the combination of colors in the decors is altogether absent; yet you see enough to interest you in the line, and the price is low enough to do the rest when you see samples.” One wonders if they didn’t expect it to be much of a success, but Cosmos remains something which continues to be popular with collectors even when other glass is in somewhat of a slump. It isn’t clear what was meant by the combination of colors being altogether absent, because it was, after all, decorated. The bands of solid color around the tops are the pinks, blues, and yellows which are featured on the flowers; However, it may be that the tableware pieces in the original catalog page are banded only with pink.

Each of the pieces is made in four lobes, although they are not pronounced. This is one way to differentiate Cosmos from other patterns like Apple Blossom, which has diagonal divisions instead of vertical, giving it a swirled effect. The netted design which fills the background of the various pieces is well done; it looks as if knots were at each intersection of the lines as it would be in actual fishnet.

That being established, we come to the question posed by a recent visitor to the Glass Heritage Gallery who wondered if the cologne and covered powder were made by another company. At the GHG, we had previously assumed that they were *Cosmos*. This called for a closer look. On those pieces, the netting is less detailed, more like plain diamonds. And on examining the flower design, the arrangement of them is simply alternating roses and daisies with no spaces between. The original *Wild Rose* pattern has groups of three flowers, alternating rose-daisy-rose and daisy-rose-daisy. On those pieces not included in our original catalog page, such as the miniature lamp and the table lamp, the tall salt shakers and the condiment sets, this arrangement continues. But it does not follow on the dresser pieces. Could these have been made by Consolidated at a later time than the previously mentioned ones, or would they be copies made by a completely different company?

Also, check the salt shaker books, which describe tall and short salt shakers. It appears that they were published before it was commonly

*(Continued on page 3)*

## FOGA DISPLAY AT INDIANAPOLIS

### William King, President (kingb123@aol.com)

The glass show in Indianapolis this past April marked the first time the Fostoria Ohio Glass Association set up a display for the Glass Heritage Gallery. For a number of years, we've been represented at the Eastern National Show in Pennsylvania. This opportunity in Indy opens us up to a new part of the country and many people who don't visit the Eastern National Show. Hopefully, this will result in visits to Fostoria and the Glass Heritage Gallery by some of those who stopped by our booth.

I want to thank David and Linda Spahr, Gary and Ann Leathers and Charlene Kelbley for taking responsibility to set up the display and be available to share Fostoria's rich glass history with glass enthusiasts at the show. No one has ever received payment of any type for setting up and sharing Fostoria's history and availability of the great display we have from the many companies that manufactured glass and lamps

in Fostoria from 1887 till 1920. This means the entire expense was paid by the individuals involved. This includes, travel, hotels and meals! Thanks to all of you for your dedication to share Fostoria's rich history!

I also want to thank Sally Reed for hosting a tour of Red-Hats in May. There's already another Red-Hat group scheduled to tour the gallery in July. These tours are a great way to get the word out about the beautiful display that we have in our gallery. Thanks Sally and thanks to the Red-Hats for your interest in our gallery and glass history. If you would like to schedule a tour, don't hesitate to contact us. The tour can be after hours, if you desire. We'd be glad to share the history of Fostoria's glass heritage with you and your group! Have a great summer and great searching.

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*(Continued from page 2)*

known that the pattern on the shorter shakers was *Apple Blossom* by Northwood Glass. This is another instance of items being popular from one company and others rushing to produce similar wares for their customers as well.

Some of the references used for this article mentioned hearing of a toothpick holder, but none is known at this time. Also missing is a celery vase, cruet, sugar shaker, and any serving dishes other than those pictured including a berry bowl set.

A nice surprise is hiding in the lower right corner of the bottom panel: there is a second syrup (molasses can) pictured. Look closer at that one; not only is the shape different from the one on the left, but it is an entirely different pattern. Bill Heacock claimed naming rights for this one in 1976, calling it *Fishnet and Poppies*. He must have paid better attention in botany class, because this looks very much like poppies. The leaves and foliage alternate around the lower part of the body. Finding one a few years ago was a real treat and the price was right due to a crack in the upper part of the handle where the crimp was applied.

Judging from the time period in which *Cosmos* was advertised, it must have been one of the patterns to be introduced in 1896. *Crockery and Glass Journal* for Feb. 20, 1896, discussed plans for the new plant being built in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania, which was to be ready in March. They also noted that the works [in Fostoria] were running full time and double time, especially on the new "Wild Rose," which was the name for the *Cosmos* pattern when it was introduced. A fire occurred five days later, and the pots were cracked and ruined, so that the continuation of the *Cosmos* pattern was left for the Coraopolis plant when it was ready to open. Note that neither the miniature lamp or the full sized lamp was likely produced while the plant was located in Fostoria.

## A Colorful Collection of Cosmos



The butter dish, left, is also in the consignment sales cabinet.



Some of the pieces of Cosmos pattern which are on display at the Glass Heritage Gallery. Pictures are not to scale. Cased glass shows better; a salt in light green which is not cased was too difficult to picture, and the blue salt looks more washed out than it actually is. The condiment set includes a mustard and two shakers.



## Red Hat Group Tours GHG Recently

The Glass Heritage Gallery was pleased to have this group of Red Hat women tour our museum on May 18th. They are pictured standing behind the Charles Foster desk. Many nice comments were received by the docent following their visit.

During March, another group from Tiffin's Antique Study Club toured the GHG and also held their meeting there. Charlene Kelbley was the docent who led their tour.

We welcome groups who wish to visit our museum and will arrange visits outside of regular hours with advanced notice.



## New Shaker Found at Indianapolis Show

FOGA board member and sharp-eyed salt shaker collector, Charlene Kelbley, located this shaker at the Indianapolis show in April. She quickly recognized it as being the same pattern as the Consolidated Shell and Seaweed toothpick holders which are on display in our collection at the Gallery. We are pleased that it has found its way back to Fostoria. There are other companies which have produced similar designs, but this is a perfect match for those made by Consolidated. We have two of the opal with blue decorations as well as a cased pink toothpick, uncased blue and



green ones, but this is the first shaker in our display. Thank you, Charlene.



This is a color picture of the *Fishnet and Poppies* molasses can which was pictured in the catalog illustration on the front page of this issue. It's pretty spectacular by itself!

# Editor's Notes

Sally Reed  
(edsareed2@yahoo.com)

**FEATURE ARTICLE** - *Cosmos* pattern seemed like the perfect look for a late spring issue. And a recent visit from Carol Bruce sparked some additional questions about what pieces may have been made in Fostoria, or indeed by Consolidated Glass at all! Thanks to her, we began to take a closer look at some pieces in our display.

**GLASS PASS** - www.glasspass.org is a group promoting antique glass; FOGA is a member. Look at this web page for information about other museums and organizations who participate in the group.

**FOSTORIA GLASS SOCIETY** in Moundsville, WV will be holding the annual show and sale and meetings on June 10-12, with a new site at the former Moundsville Penitentiary. Check at www.fostoriaglass.org for the schedule of events.

**THANKS** - We appreciate the work of Rik Weber and John Weber in repairing our sandwich sign which stands outside the Gallery. It looks great!

## Look-Alike Pattern Continues to Mystify Another Victoria with Fern Located

At the Glass Heritage Gallery, we continue to look for the manufacturer of this pattern which so closely resembles Fostoria Glass Company's #183, *Victoria*.

The latest find is this oval dish, which was brought into the GHG recently. We have previously had a footed open compote, but the



quality of the glass is better in this piece and the swirls and circles more closely resemble the *Victoria*. The fern design is molded into the glass, not etched.

If anyone has information or additional pieces in this pattern, we would like to hear from you.

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We appreciate the following people who have helped support our organization and museum in the past year.

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2. Fostoria Glass Novelty Co. Catalog (circa 1920) showing cut glass patterns. \$12.55 plus \$3.00 shipping. Ohio residents add \$0.95 tax.

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The year listed on your label is the year for which you are paid in full, January 1 to December 31. The letter and number following the year, L1 for example is January, 2011, & indicates the month we recorded the payment, and helps our record-keeping.

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Your Membership will help to purchase Fostoria, Ohio made glass and to perpetuate the Fostoria Glass Heritage Gallery (by paying for the Victoria Views, utilities, insurance, general maintenance, advertising and other operating expenses. Note: we charge no admission fee and none of our officers, docents or volunteers are compensated for their work).

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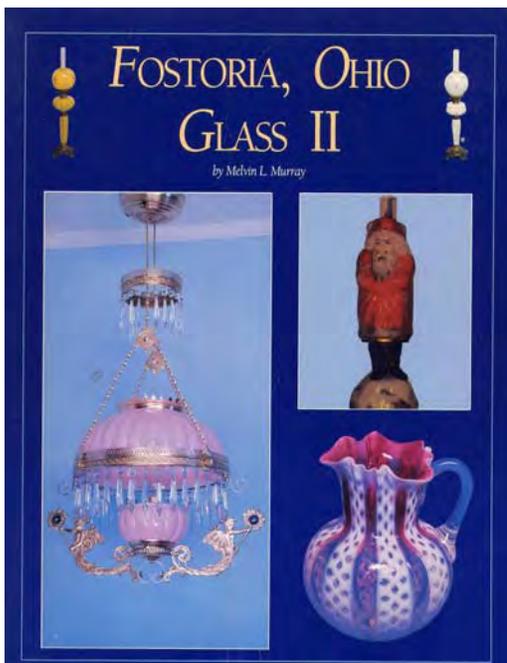
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