

October 2011 Glass of the Month: IRIS AND HERRINGBONE



I can still remember the beautiful lavender irises my mother had planted in the yard when I was growing up. They bloomed every spring and were gorgeous. Now I wonder if that is why she had this covered dish sitting on the table next to the couch, filled with candy. It's strange how you

sometimes don't "add it up" until you are older.

This Iris and Herringbone pattern butter dish from my mother now sits proudly among my collection. I had no idea until I was at least 40 years old what it was. My sister, who is older and wiser, informed me that it was very collectible and so it began.



Iris and Herringbone by Jeannette Glass is one of the most popular and easily identifiable patterns. It is considered to be both a Depression Glass Pattern and a 40s, 50s, 60s Pattern. The Depression glass items produced between 1928 and 1932 were mostly all clear, but some pink and green pieces were also made. The iridescent or marigold pieces were made in the 1950's. "Corsage" styled pieces (painted flowers in several different colors, trimmed in gold) were made by Jeannette and painted by the Century Glass Company during the mid-1940's. The pattern has been reproduced, mostly in the crystal/clear glass.

Iris and Herringbone has smooth molded iris flowers and leaves over a background of a molded herringbone pattern. Some footed items and some bowl bottoms have molded rays. Later pieces do not have the rays.



Our yard now has just a few irises; I think I should plant some bulbs this fall and enjoy even more beautiful blooms next spring, in honor of my mom's iris garden.



Since Iris is the Greek goddess for the Messenger of Love, her sacred flower is considered the symbol of communication and messages. Greek men would often plant an iris on the graves of their beloved women as a tribute to the goddess Iris, whose duty it was to take the souls of women to the Elysian fields."

- Hana No Monogatari:
The Stories of Flowers

- Submitted by Marge Ramirez