

ADVERTISING WORKSHEET

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COMPANY NAME: DAVIDSON'S SOCIETY CHOCOLATES

STREET: _____

CITY-STATE: _____

BUSINESS TYPE: CANDY MANUFACTURE / SALES

WORDING AS SHOWN: DAVIDSON'S SOCIETY CHOCOLATES

SHAPES KNOWN: BOWL - H/6 - PLATE

MAKER: NORTHWOOD

BACK PATTERN: BASKETWEAVE

COMMENTS: FAIRLY AVAILABLE IN H/6 SHAPE, BOWLS & PLATES SCARCE TO RARE

~~BOWL 275-375~~
H/6 250-300
PLATE 350-450

November 22, 2010

Dear Mr. Resnik,

You probably have no idea who I am, so let me start with an explanation and also tell you a little about me. Tom Mordini and I were recently exchanging emails regarding lettered carnival glass pieces. During one of our discussions I mentioned that I had obtained new information about the Davidson's Society plate. As we talked about it we both thought of you and thought you might be interested in the story.

I am a member of Lincoln Land Carnival Glass, HOACGA, and ICGA. My wife, Barb, is in fact treasurer of ICGA. I have now written two articles for the ICGA Pump regarding the lettered pieces that you wrote your book on. Your fine work has been mentioned in my articles along with other sources. The purpose of the articles is to make members aware of the lettered pieces because our display room this July at the ICGA convention in St. Louis will feature these very pieces. I am hoping that this will inspire these members to volunteer their plates and bowls for the display room. We have only four or five different pieces so it will take many members who will be willing to bring their pieces.

I had noticed the lack of information from all sources about the Davidson's Society Chocolates plate. I decided to see if I could obtain any information on this plate. Little did I realize how difficult this task was! I was about to quit looking when I came across a web site for a Davidson genealogy organization. Having researched my family I thought it was worth trying to contact them to see if they could help. Within a couple of hours and two or three email exchanges I had some answers!

The Davidson Candy Company, also know as Davidson's Brothers Candy was out of Des Moines, Iowa. Your speculation that it might be out of northern Missouri or southern Iowa was not too far off. From various census records from 1910 to 1930 the owner was a James Calvin Davidson. He is listed as a "manufacturer of confectionaries in the 1910 census and "Merchant and Manager of Wholesale Fruit and Candy in the 1920 census. He lived at 902 - 18th Street and also 1721 Pleasant Street. These two addresses are about two blocks apart in Des Moines.

I then found in the volume three issue of the Midwestern Magazine further evidence. This magazine was published in Des Moines and in this 1908 issue there is reference to a Commercial Club banquet. It states in the article that the food was provided by manufacturing establishments from Des Moines. From the article I quote " The chocolates came from the firm of the Davidson Candy Company. The ` society chocolates ` have not their superior anywhere". In the same issue there are also ads for Davidson's Candy.

I hope you have found this new information interesting. I feel I have in a small way added something to the information that you obviously took so long to discover. I understand that you are no longer too interested in collecting carnival glass, but I still thought you might like the story. It would be great if we could interest you into coming to our convention to see what I hope will be a great display!

Thanks for all you did to further our hobby! If you are on the internet and would care to further this discussion, my email address is dbcham@iowatelecom.net. You could also write. I would welcome your comments!

Sincerely,



Don Chamberlain