

Feb | Mar | Apr | 2024

Old Stuff

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, HISTORY AND NOSTALGIA FOR THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST



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Have a Heart

Dr. Lori Verderame

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Read All About it

Press Releases and Letters from Readers

CUSTER’S 49TH ANNUAL SPRING ANTIQUE & COLLECTOR’S SALE

April 20 & 21, 2024
Spokane Fair & Expo Center, Washington

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LINCOLN CITY ANTIQUE AND COLLECTIBLES WEEK

FEBRUARY 17 – 24, 2024
Lincoln City, Oregon

Don’t miss Lincoln City’s Antique & Collectibles Week in 2024! To celebrate the quality of “antiquing,” every February Lincoln City hosts Antique & Collectibles Week, a ten-day-long event featuring citywide sales from local antique stores. Discover your next treasure as you experience the history of Lincoln City.

Plus, keep your eyes peeled during Antique & Collectibles Week for antique-style Japanese glass floats hidden on the beach in Lincoln City. They’ll be dropping 100 special floats as part of their Finders Keepers program.

Participating shops include:

The Little Antique Mall is the largest antique mall on the Oregon Coast with over 80 dealers all under one roof, you will find primitives, furniture, pottery and gourmet coffee to taste. Their friendly staff can help

you find exactly what you’re looking for.

The Oceanlake District is a small antique district by itself, with malls like the *Rocking Horse Antique Mall*, *Carousel by the Beach*, and *Granny’s Attic* providing many local dealers with a corner and a shelf to display their finds. Explore these quaint shops for a wealth of hidden gems.

Nelscott House Antiques & Collectibles is a family-run business in the Nelscott District. They offer one-of-a-kind collectibles, desirable antiques, quality furniture, and gifts unique to the Oregon Coast.

The south end of Lincoln City is another hotbed of antique activity, you’ll find *North By Northwest Books & Antiques* just begging to be browsed with row upon row of books, bargains, and quirky collectibles.



GREEN RIVER GLASS SHOW & SALE



February 24, 2024
Kent Commons, Washington

The 46th Annual Green River Glass Show and Sale is being held on Saturday, February 24, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Kent Commons, 525 4th Avenue N., Kent, Washington. Admission is \$3.00, with the door proceeds benefiting local charities.

Exhibitors will be displaying and selling from tables featuring glass, jewelry and collectibles from early

to mid-20th century, including depression, elegant and 50’s, 60’s & 70’s glassware, pottery, china and kitchenware.

Special Guests this year will be Randy and Debbie Coe, authors of many books on American Glassware. Randy will be providing free glassware identification (limit 2 items) for show attendees. Eunique’s Jewelry Restoration & Repair will also be joining them this year.



Have a press release, an idea for a story or maybe just a few thoughts to share?
Contact Christy at cnielsen@newsregister.com

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

ISSUE	ADVERTISING DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
May/Jun/Jul	Apr 1, 2024	May 1, 2024
Aug/Sep/Oct	Jul 1, 2024	Aug 1, 2024
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Calendar of Shows
and Special Events

Oregon

February 17 - 24
Antique & Collectible Week, Lincoln City

March 23
Wagon Wheel Dollers Spring Doll Show
Rickreall, Polk County Fairgrounds

Mar 29 - Jun 2
Monticello Antique Marketplace Home and
Garden Show, Portland

July 13 & 14
Rose City Vintage Market, Portland

Washington

February 18
The Seattle Antique & Collectible
Doll & Toy Market, Lynwood

February 24
Green River Glass Show, Kent

March 15 & 16
Country Chicks Market, Enumclaw

April 20 & 21
Custer Antique & Collectors Sale, Spokane

Have an antique or collectible event or show coming up?
Old Stuff would love to let our readers know about it!
Send us your information at cnielsen@newsregister.com
and we'll add it to our calendar - FREE!

PLEASE NOTE: Times and dates are subject to change. Please call before making any long-distance travel plans based on listings.

Old Stuff News Brief

Welcome to 2024!

By Rusty Rae - Associate Editor

It shouldn't come as any surprise weather has dominated the New Year in the Pacific Northwest. The unusually cold January weather has created havoc for antique, vintage, and collectible shops throughout the area. Perhaps one the heaviest hit stores this past January was Apple Annie's in Cashmere, Washington. That is not unusual for Apple Annie's as it is located in the geographic center of the state on the eastern side of the Cascade Mountains between Wenatchee and Leavenworth.

Store manager Michelle Whitford said they were closed for several days with more than a foot of snow plus below zero temperatures that made for difficult driving.

But the team at Apple Annie's is already looking forward to its Memorial Day parking lot flea market. It's basically a parking lot sale with 50 spaces that are open on a first-come first-served basis.

But Whitford noted, "Spaces go fast and it's never too early to reserve a spot." If you want a space It's never too early to reserve your space.

In anything you can do we can do

better category, the folks in Vernonia, Oregon had their own snowmageddon — not that in this case that's a good thing. Our friends at Penny Lane, Joe and Nina Versaw, said they closed down for a couple of weeks.

"We simply didn't want folks even thinking about coming with the roads so bad," said Nina.

However, Penny Lane has continued to bring in new merchandise and if you remember driving bumper cars at the fair, they have one in their storefront window. If the price is right, you can take it home and relive some of those fair memories.

Meanwhile on the southern Oregon coast the weather has been typically raining but Dylan XX at Old World Antiques in Coos Bay said they've been open and the area has dodged the severed weather of up North.

Over in Aurora, Oregon, Bill Notenboom at South End Antiques and Collectibles said, "We were closed for three or four days, but we survived and it's been busy since we reopened."

Aurora, with its many antique and vintage stores, known as the Antique



A winter wonderland in Vernonia, Oregon

Capital of Oregon, has had a busy start of the year despite the weather playing freeze-out with businesses in January.

Noteboom said South End and its 30 vendors are preparing for its Valentine's Day Sweetheart Sale.

"With 30 vendors there are a large variety of antique and vintage items from which to choose — and the sale will mean great pricing," he said. Over in McMinnville, Aimee Hall with McMinnville Antique Mall (MAM) said they were shut down for three days but happily have reopened and are seeing a renaissance of business as it seems as if people are happy just to be out of the house.

Those visiting her shop will find one new vendor and she noted she's looking to fill another spot which recently opened. She hopes to have the new vendor in place by March 1.

Hall and the team MAM are readying for their Valentines Day Gift Basket Giveaway and Gift Certificate Raffle which will runs February 1-13.

For the Gift Basket Giveaway, nominate your favorite vintage/antique enthusiast. Winner will be announced

via social media or direct contact on Valentines Day. For the raffle, get one raffle ticket for every \$10 spent at the MAM. Winner will also be announced February 14 in a similar manner.

Additionally Hall said MAM has an Easter Egg Hunt event scheduled for March 17-31. Stop in to get complete details. MAM is located on third street in the heart of downtown McMinnville.

If you're looking for prime antique or vintage items in Port Orchard, Washington stop in the Olde Central Antique Mall where Bobbie Stewart says, "You can stop in to warm up anytime — our heater works great!" Olde Central Antique Mall features 34 dealers on two stories and on 10,000 square feet of vendor booths. One of the cool items you'll find at the Olde Central Antique Mall is a time clock that is around 100 years old. Made the International Time Recording Company of New York, it was professionally electrified and today is a functioning time keeper. International Time Recording is better known these days as International Business Machine or IBM.

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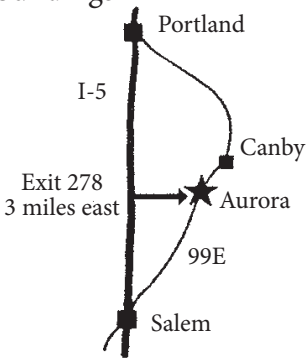
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From the Editor

So happy to be back

Hello fellow antique lovers. My name is Christy Nielsen and I am back at the helm of Old Stuff and as the subheader above notes - I am so happy to be back.

I bring to Old Stuff 25+ years of advertising experience managing the production and advertising departments at the News-Register in McMinnville, Oregon.

Outside of work, I come from a family of antique enthusiasts. My parents owned an antique shop in Multnomah Village a few years back that I helped with. We loved scouring the

newspaper for estate sales and local antique events every weekend.

Although times have changed, my love for antiques and collectibles has persisted and when the opportunity arose to come back to Old Stuff I jumped at it.

I welcome your comments, suggestions and story ideas. Please feel free to contact me directly at 503.687.1258 or cnielsen@newsregister.com.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Christy

Barbie Through the Years

It's her world and we're all just living in it

By Abby Meador - Contributor

One of the most iconic names in the modern toy industry, Barbie has been a fixture in the lives of young children since the very first Barbie was put on shelves. Developed during an era of history where girls really only had baby dolls to play with, Barbie introduced a whole new world of opportunities.

Barbie's Beginnings

With the intention of creating a doll that young girls could feel empowered and inspired by, Ruth Handler developed the very first Barbie doll in 1959. Donning a black and white striped bathing suit and red sunglasses, Barbie debuted at the New York Toy Fair and was originally met with skeptical feedback. She was unlike any other toy that had been created up until that time, giving young girls the opportunity to play with toys that sported careers, themes, and ideals that had really only been left to boys' toys prior. Despite the apprehension of critics, this was only the beginning of what would become the Barbie empire. She remains one of the most valuable and popular Barbie dolls of all time. When this doll hit shelves, she only cost about \$3, accessories not included. Today, this original Barbie doll is valued at \$27,450.

Barbie of the '60s

With the launch of the very first Barbie, the '60s were looking promising in terms of the outlook for Mattel's newest doll. In 1965, Mattel released a brand new Barbie only to Europe and Japan, under the name of The Gala Abend Barbie. The feature that really set this doll apart from previous Barbies was her bendable legs, something that everyday Barbies had never done up until this point. In addition to this, she is dressed in an intricate ball gown fit for a queen, carrying a silver clutch and the tiniest dance program you'll ever see. The Gala Abend Barbie goes down in history as one of the most expensive Barbie dolls in the brand's history. Today, she can cost you a pretty penny at the price of upwards of \$9,000.

The '60s also brought the very first celebrity collaboration with Barbie in 1967 alongside Twiggy, a British model. This doll had short blonde hair and long eyelashes, and was only ever available for purchase in 1967 and 1968. She wore a green, blue, and yellow dress, along with a fashionable pair of yellow boots. While she isn't as expensive today as the Gala Abend Barbie, she still is a very historic and popular fixture of the Barbie brand.



Barbie of the '70s

The 1970s were yet another era of innovation for the Barbie company. In 1971, the very first Malibu Barbie was released, which ultimately has become one of the most iconic and recognizable dolls of the brand as a whole. She debuted with a brand new face mold and long blonde hair, and quickly became a recognizable symbol of Californian culture. Her eyes were also painted to face forward, rather than the off-to-the-side glance original dolls used to have. Alongside the ultimate surfer girl came Malibu Ken, donning the same tan skin and blonde hair as Barbie. Due to the commercial success of these dolls, Mattel quickly added more Malibu-themed friends of Barbie to their roster in the following years.

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An original 1970s Malibu Barbie can now be purchased at the price of \$300.

This was also the time in which Quick Curl Barbie was released, a blonde doll that could actually curl her hair. She came with her very own curlers and clips and was released sometime between 1972 and 1973, though the actual year is debated by collectors. In order to actually make her hair curl, her hair has tiny little wires throughout, which allow the hair to curl upward while not being too visible to the eye.

Barbie of the '80s

In honor of their 30th birthday, Mattel hosted a celebration at Lincoln Center in New York in 1989, where they gifted guests the brand new Pink Jubilee Barbie. In true 80s fashion, this Barbie has big hair, big shoulder pads, and a glam and glitz outfit to disco the night away.

A Pink Jubilee Barbie now is valued at \$1,300. The 80s was also the first decade in which a Black Barbie doll was ever released - in 1980. In previous years, there had been Black dolls, but they'd always been framed as friends of Barbie, rather than being Barbie herself. This was a huge and historic moment in the history of the Barbie brand, providing a level of representation for young Black girls that really hadn't been there before. She wore a beautiful red gown to dance in and red heels; though she also came with an all white disco suit that she could change into.

Barbie of the '90s

Similar to the Pink Jubilee Barbie, Mattel wanted

to celebrate Barbie's 40th anniversary in style, and that they did come the year 1999. De Beers, a large and successful diamond company at the time, supplied Barbie with enough diamonds for each anniversary doll to have exactly 160. So many of the diamonds and their details on this doll are so small and intricate that it can be a challenge even spotting them, though their value makes this doll a sizable investment.

This doll wears a bikini top and a long fabric skirt, embellished by a diamond encrusted waist chain and a shawl to wrap around her shoulders. She also wore dark purple-tinted lipstick and donned long brown hair with simple bangs. To date, she is one of the most expensive and most rare Barbie dolls on the market.

A De Beers Barbie can currently cost upwards of \$85,000, largely due to its diamonds.

In addition to this, during 1992, Mattel released the most popular Barbie doll of all time: the Totally Hair Barbie. Selling more than 10 million dolls worldwide, this doll donned hair so long it reached her heels, with a bright colorful dress and big pink earrings. She remains the most popular doll to this day, though her monetary value is not comparable to a De Beers Barbie.

Barbie of the '00s

With the beginning of a new millennium came the beginning of a new era for Mattel's Barbie brand. To celebrate this occasion, the very first doll released in the new century was the Celebration 2000 Special Edition Barbie. Not many of



these dolls were made, making it a hot commodity among collectors and Barbie fanatics. Dressed in a long and puffy golden ball gown, this Barbie wears a crown atop her head and a necklace over her chest, decked out in glitter, fur, and elegance. A mint condition Celebration 2000 Special Edition Barbie can now be found for purchase at upwards of \$11,000. All in all, Barbie is a doll that has not only grown and shifted throughout the last several decades; she is also a doll that has had a strong influence over pop culture and the toy industry since her very first version. With the development of new dolls that represent people with different

skin tones, cultures, and body types, Barbie has become a reflection of the people who love her; of the people who have made her who she is. She is a symbol of girlhood and what it means to follow your dreams and find immense success. Considering the amount of success, love, and joy that Barbie has brought throughout her existence to people and children of all ages, it is no surprise how valuable these dolls are considered to be now. Well, that, and the latest Barbie movie!

Country Chicks Markets 2024

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Sunshine of the Night

Jerry Vandewalle’s Collection of Lanterns



Just a small section of the lanterns hanging in the barn

By Rusty Rae - Associate Editor

You may be surprised at the varied items that people collect. For example Yamhill, Oregon’s Jerry Vandewalle received a small Coleman Lantern for Christmas when he was 12 or 13- years-old. Today his collection numbers more than 1,200 of the lamps, called “The Sunshine of the night”, and in a variety of ages, sizes, and shapes. Born near Moline, Illinois, his family move to Oregon when he was eight years old. Today the octogenarian, though retired from his regular job for 20-years, still farms his 33-acre farm in the middle of wine country in the northern portion of the Willamette Valley. “That Christmas present kinda got me started. I always liked them and when I retired I could go to sales more often — garage sales, estate sales and auctions,” he said. “It’s a bit hard to tell when I actually started collecting — sometime in the early 1980s, I guess. My wife opened an antique shop and we’d go and buy

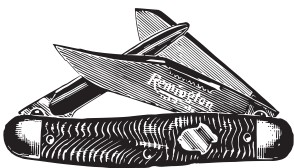
stuff (for the shop),” he recalled. Vandewalle said he was on a feeding frenzy when he and his wife first started. “I was buying all kinds of different things I liked. I decided I should specialize in something. I thought I oughta have something special I could focus on and I started buying lanterns,” he said. Vandewalle’s collecting fever turned to lanterns. “I started buying lanterns — I bought every lantern I could find,” he recalled with chortle. Vandewalle keeps track of his collection in a notebook, though he notes some of the collection from the early days of his collecting efforts, before he retired, are not listed. Today the barn he hand-built some 50-years ago houses a portion of his more than 1,200 lanterns, along with a passel of other items he’s collected over the years. “I’ve got a huge amount of stuff in the barn — you name it, I probably have some — old tools, flashlights, old toys,” he said.

While his collection today focuses on Coleman Lanterns, it contains a variety of lanterns. He doesn’t light them very often — some perhaps never — because the mantles are delicate and are difficult to come by. His first task when he takes a lantern home is to drain it of oil and clean it up, It’s simply safer when you have that many lanterns to not have the risk of fire. When he first started collecting lanterns seriously, Vandewalle didn’t mess around. “I’d go to all sorts of sales — if a guy had five or six of them, I’d just ask how much for all of them,” he said. Asked if he has the world’s greatest lantern collection, Vandewalle shook his head and smiled, noting, “No I don’t think so. I think there are people who have far more than I have.” Vandewalle says he has some favorites in his collection, but adds, “I can’t say I’ve got one favorite though.” Among those from his collection that make his eyes light up, like one of the lamps, are two in cardboard boxes that have never been opened. Another in his collection has been thoroughly restored and he says,

“There are no flaws — it’s like it’s brand new. I’ve got some in my collection that have never been lit.” Though his collection today focuses on the Coleman brand, his collection includes some classic lanterns that reflect the history of the area. If you visit Jerry in his barn you’ll see a couple massive lanterns. One was formerly a street lantern from before the dawn of electric lights. Another massive lantern, around three feet tall, is suspected to be from a railroad station. “It’s not marked, so you can’t really prove it’s from a railroad station — so to me its not really a railroad lantern if you can’t prove it,” he said. However, a number of lanterns hanging in the barn are railroad lanterns and they are marked with the name of the various railroad companies — Great Northern, Southern Pacific and such. Vandewalle notes collecting Coleman lanterns is not for the faint of heart. “There is a lot of competition out there and there are many collectors who attend auctions and sales who are more aggressive than I am,” he said.

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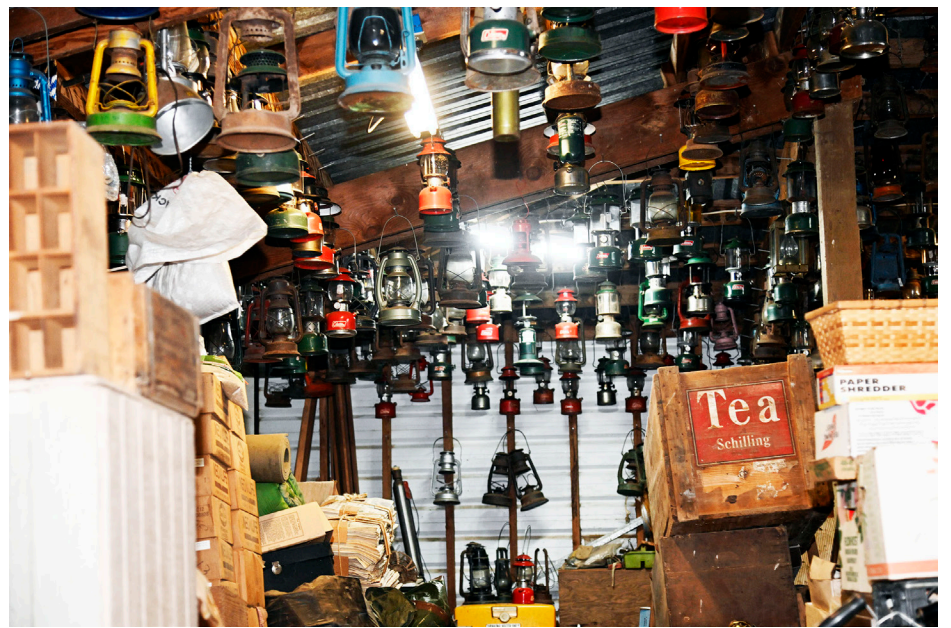


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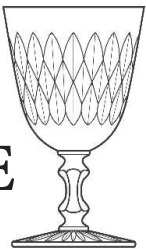
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Flora Steel, Lightning Strikes Thrice

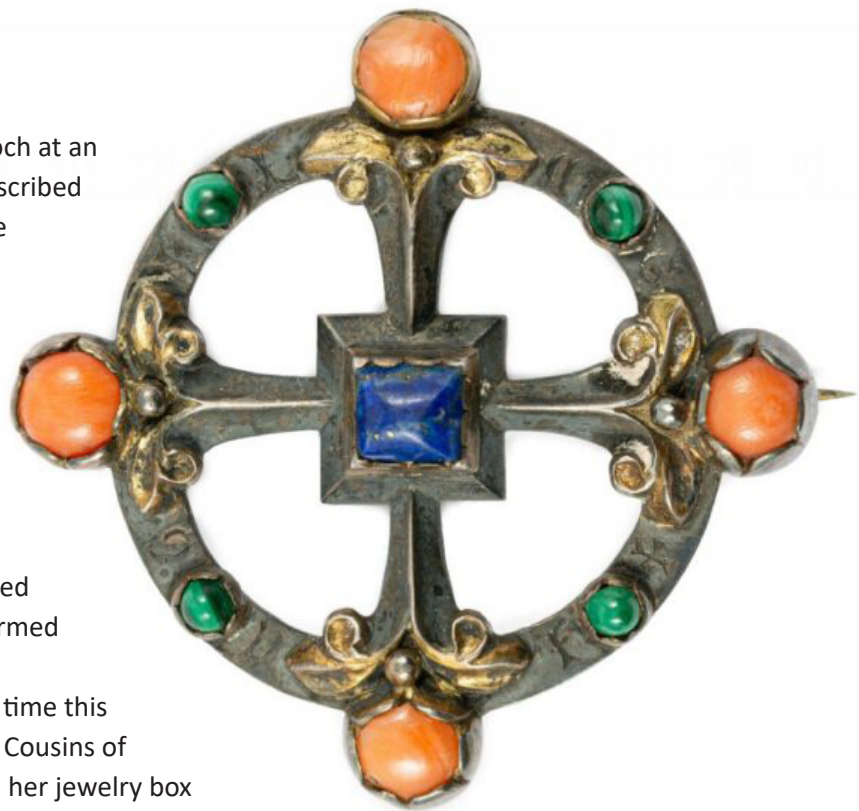
In 1988, jewelry enthusiast Flora Steel found an interesting-looking silver brooch at an antique market in England. Not recognizing a maker, but drawn to what she described as “its strong design, strange lettering, and unusual stones” —a lapis lazuli in the center, coral and malachite alternating around the circular frame—she bought it for under £20 (or \$25).

Thirty-five years later, Steel was watching a clip of “Most Wanted Finds” from Antiques Roadshow and saw something familiar. Jewelry specialist Geoffrey Munn displayed a sketch of designs for brooches by 19th-century architect and designer William Burges. Munn explained that the brooches themselves have been lost to history; finding one would be a “holy grail” worth about £10,000 (\$12,500). Steel realized that the inexpensive brooch she had bought years ago matched one of the designs. She contacted the show and appeared on its 2023 “At Christmas” episode, where Munn confirmed that her brooch was Burges’s design.

This is already a fantastic story, but it’s even more amazing for being the third time this has happened! The “Most Wanted Finds” clip originally aired in 2011, when Jill Cousins of Leicestershire watched it and recognized a brooch that had been languishing in her jewelry box for 20 years. This one had a garnet heart in the center and a frame resembling interlaced twigs with four forget-me-nots with turquoise centers. She had been planning to sell it for £10 at a local market; instead, she contacted the Gildings auction house, where it sold in August of that year for £31,000 (\$40,000), more than tripling Munn’s estimate.

Lightning struck twice in 2011: another Antiques Roadshow viewer saw the same episode and owned a brooch with the same design. This one was also sold through Gildings but in a private sale to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Burges, one of the greatest architects of the Gothic Revival period, was commissioned to design the brooches as gifts for bridesmaids at clients’ weddings. In Victorian England, it was a custom for the groom to give small gifts to the bridesmaids, usually a small piece of jewelry like a brooch or pendant. They often incorporated the bride’s and groom’s family arms or featured symbolic designs.



Wake Up and Smell the Salts

Smelling salts have been used to revive someone who is feeling faint or has lost consciousness since the days of the Romans. But it was not until the 18th century that smelling-salt holders became fashionable. Smelling salts (ammonium carbonate and water) release an ammonia gas that irritates the inside of the nose and causes rapid breathing. This means more oxygen is inhaled. Ammonia was made from shaved deer horns in ancient times and often was called “spirit of hartshorn.” Victorians

often used perfume with the smelling salts.

The smelling-salt holder was opened and waved near the nose of the troubled patient. Many of the bottles were curved. Some were made of decorated metal and worn as part of a necklace. Some just looked like small salt-shakers. A 2 5/8-inch marbled glass “shaker” made of light blue and milk glass with a threaded cap sold for \$293 at a Norman Heckler sale in Connecticut. It probably was made in Boston about 1850.



Just a Dirty Thief

Comic collectibles remain popular as long as the comic characters are still seen or heard in comic books, cartoons, radio, TV, movies, plays or reruns. And B.O. Plenty, who was an early figure in the Dick Tracy comic strip that started in 1931, has been dropped and reintroduced many times. He married Gravel Gertie, and these two ugly people had a beautiful daughter, Sparkle Plenty, in 1947. Later, they had a very ugly son whose face was never shown in the strip. The tin windup toy by Marx picturing B.O. holding his daughter Sparkle just sold at a Bertoia auc-

tion for \$118. The 8-1/2-inch toy shuffles across the floor while his hat tips.

The Dick Tracy characters and inventions still are familiar. The original artist, Chester Gould, drew the strip from 1931 to 1977. Other artists have continued it. His characters, their strange names and the inventions used by policeman Dick Tracy still are popular today. The two-way wrist radio first mentioned in 1946, two-way wrist TV (1964) and Spacecar (1960s) all have become realities.

Q: I grew up with this desk and chair in my bedroom. I know by the label that it’s by Heywood-Wakefield. Can you tell me anything about it and its value?

A: You grew up with a charming piece of Mid-Century furniture crafted by a furniture maker that is very much in demand by fans of the genre. In 1897, two prominent furniture companies, Heywood Brothers (est. 1826) and Wakefield Company (est. 1855), merged to create Heywood Brothers & Wakefield Company; the name would be shortened to Heywood-Wakefield in 1921. The new company rose to popularity in the 1930s, ’40s, and ’50s with its solid wood, Art Deco-inspired Mid-Century furniture. Furniture manufacturing in the U.S. changed greatly in the 1970s, with competition from cheaper overseas manufacturing practically killing business here. Heywood-Wakefield fell victim to the increased competition, closing its plant in Gardner, Mass., in 1979. The South Beach Furniture Co. acquired the rights to the name in 1992 and today reproduces its wooden furniture.



Mid-Century furniture fans clamor for the look and quality of the vintage Heywood-Wakefield line. Your desk and chair are made of maple and look to be in great shape even after all these years. At auction, we have seen a desk and chair like yours sell for between \$250-\$1,000+.

The Collectors Q&A



Q: I have a tall vase or urn. It is pottery, as best I can tell, and the stamp on the bottom says “Choisy I Roi” ... H B CHOISY. The numbers 333 and 320 are stamped on the bottom. It stands 24 1/2 inches tall and is 39 inches around, and the opening on the top is 8 1/2 inches. It’s very beautiful, as you can tell from the photo. It was purchased at an auction many years ago for approximately \$25. I’ve tried to research the piece and have found the company but not the vase. Any help you can give me would be appreciated. And, of course, we would love to know its value.

A: Several types of ceramics were made in Choisy-le-Roi, France, including porcelain, semiporcelain, and majolica. Your vase looks like majolica, a type of pottery with a thick, usually brightly colored tin glaze that conceals the clay. It is also called faience. It has been made since the 14th century and was especially popular in the late 19th century. The letters in your mark, “H B & Cie,” stand for “Hippolyte Boulenger & Sons.” Hippolyte Boulenger inherited the factory from his father in 1863. Buying it for \$25 is a bargain—at recent auctions, Choisy-le-Roi majolica has sold from about \$100 to thousands of dollars! The highest prices go to artist-signed pieces with elaborate, lifelike mold-ed figures of birds and animals. Smaller, simpler pieces, like a bowl with painted flowers and no three-dimensional decorations, sell for about \$100. Majolica vases like yours by other makers have sold for about \$100 to \$500.

Q: I bought this bottle at a thrift shop, “fill up a bag for \$3.00.” It’s embossed “Romoc Co., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.” on one side and just “Romoc” on the other. I can’t seem to find anything online about the company. The bottle is about 7 1/2 inches tall. What can you tell me about it?

A: Romoc was a patent medicine made about the turn of the twentieth century, before the Pure Food and Drug Act was passed in 1906. A 1902 newspaper ad for Romoc called it “the grandest medicine ever put in bottles” and claimed it will “correct the faulty digestive action,” “brighten the duller life” and “positively overcome stomach weaknesses and defects.” Price per bottle was \$1.00. The manufacturer and city are listed as “Romoc Remedy Co., Providence, R.I.,” so the company might have moved or had two factories. A bottle embossed “Romoc, R.G. Cross Co.” sold for \$8. The seller did not list the city and there is no information about “R.G. Cross Co.” A bottle like yours, but with a label on the front that said “Pure as Nature, Romoc, For Brain, Brawn, Blood, Romoc Remedy Company, Sole Owners, Boston, U.S.A.,” was offered for sale recently for \$70. Your bottle without labels would be worth very little.



Do you have a question for Collector’s Gallery? Send your question and attached photos via e-mail to ATNews@aimmedia.com. Photographs must be 300 dpi. Please include as much information about your item as possible: size, condition, where it came from, or anything else helpful. The values given are estimates and are not intended for legal or personal dealings.

Have a Heart

Vintage Valentines from the 1940s



BY DR. LORI VERDERAME

The winter holiday of Valentine’s Day which falls on February 14th honors a goddess and a saint. The Roman goddess is named Juno associated with marriage. The saint and Christian martyr is St. Valentine. One of the most common collectibles of the February holiday are the printed and

highly decorated Valentine cards exchanged by all ages. While the advent of commercial printing changed the face of the greeting card industry in the early 20th Century, valentine cards of the 1940s speak volumes about a tumultuous time in American and world history. They highlight our mid-century modern culture and our most popular customs. Valentine cards from the 1940s featured poems, rhymes, special events, famous places, cartoon characters, the military, and of course, lovers throughout history.

Some of the rare, collectible, and valuable Valentine cards derived from the spectacle that was the World’s Fair held in New York City in 1939-40. One example featured an illustration of the World Fair’s Trylon and Perisphere by architects, Harrison and Fouihoux and read “Hey, hey! You’re the FAIR-est Valentine in the world.” Valentines that fall into more than one collecting category like World Fair collectibles, vintage printed greeting cards, etc. are of higher value than basic Valentine cards. Valentines with variety of imagery attract interested buyers and command higher prices on the collectibles market. A World Fair Valentine card, for example, can be valued at \$15 whereas a similar Valentine with no connection to the World’s Fair may only be worth \$2 to collectors.

World War II era Valentine cards often offered cheerful sentiments even though the war was ever present in the minds of many lovers. Some wartime Valentines featured figures of children dressed in military uniforms stating, “I’d FIGHT them all for you, Valentine.”

Air and sea travel figured prominent in the decade of the 1940s, so zeppelins, airplanes, rockets, and ocean liners were pictured on Valentines. A few popular cards of the era read: “I’m MOONING over you, Valentine”, “Is there SPACE in your heart for me?”, and “I’d SAIL the ocean blue for you, Valentine.”

Even big businesses got into the act on Valen-

tine’s Day. Some Valentine cards featured pictures of kitchen appliances like refrigerators, stoves, cars, etc. A cute early 1940s Valentine card featured a girl outside and a boy inside a new, single door, light blue refrigerator or “the Frigidaire” as it was called back then. The card read in the boy’s voice: “Your FRIGID AIR is not so nice, Don’t treat me like a cake of ice! Be my Valentine.”

Famous couples like Samson and Delilah or Antony and Cleopatra appeared on Valentine’s cards of the era. Also, cartoon characters were pictured on many Valentines and some of the most popular characters who appeared on workplace posters and war bonds announcement flyers were the beloved Disney pair, Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse. Similarly, Daisy Mae and Li’l Abner from the comic strip by Al Capp were popular features on Valentine’s cards too. Hallmark, in cooperation with United Feature Syndicate, produced a line of cards featuring the Li’l Abner gang and other comic strip characters in 1946, just after the end of World War II.

Personally, I think one of the best Valentine card ideas came from the designers at The E. Rosen Company of Providence, RI. The Rosen firm produced a Valentine card in the 1940s called the Lollipop card. This trendy 1940s lollipop card featured two puppies on the cover and read: “Puppy love is Dandy, so I’m sending you this CANDY.” That’s right, this Valentine’s card came with its own candy. There is nothing better! That’s one valentine’s card everybody can love. Happy Valentine’s Day.

*Dr. Lori Verderame is a Ph.D. antiques appraiser and award-winning media personality. Her www.YouTube.com/DrLoriV channel boasts 38 million views and her popular website, www.DrLoriV.com gives art/antiques tips and selling advice. She appears on Netflix’s *King of Collectibles*, History channel’s #1 show, *The Curse of Oak Island* and on *Pawn Stars do America*.*



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Form and Function

The clocks of Gustav Becker



Gustav Eduard Becker was born in 1819 and was a German clockmaker and founder of the brand Gustav Becker. He learned clockmaking expertise in Silesia, refining his skills through apprenticeships with numerous accomplished masters across Germany which, during that era, was the most important country in the clock industry.

His great skills gave him the ability to fix clocks at the most intricate level. His breakthrough came in 1852 at the Silesian Clock Fair. Crowds were drawn to his works because of the quality, and he was awarded the gold medal for the best clock in the fair.

This award gave him the recognition that he needed to attract skilled craftsmen to his workshops.

Numerous awards and certificates followed, from trade expos as far-flung as Australia and as close to home as Vienna. He was very adept at leveraging this new-found notoriety to the benefit of his business enterprise.

Gustav Becker's clockmaking prowess extended to a wide



range of styles, from the sleek and minimalist to the ornate and decorative. His Vienna regulators, bracket clocks, and wall clocks, adorned with beautifully crafted cases, reflected a true commitment to both form and function. These clocks were more than timekeeping instruments; they were works of art that graced homes and establishments with their timeless elegance.

The Becker workshops at their height produced more than 400 varieties of clocks. The casework is extraordinarily well done and often incorporates hand carving. Germany has never lacked for skilled carvers and the talent of the region's artisans is evidenced in the Becker clock cases.

Gustav Becker clocks are known



for their quality workmanship and the Becker name on a clock will make it more valuable than lesser-known maker's clocks of similar quality. Becker clocks are not too difficult to identify. Until 1880 and the introduction of the spring driven mechanism, almost all of Gustav Becker's clocks were weight driven Regulator wall clocks. Becker's clocks bear his trademark and serial number on the dial and weights are usually marked with his initials. Serial numbers reference the year of manufacture, so determining age is made very simple.

The legacy of Gustav Becker endures to this day. Vintage and antique Gustav Becker clocks remain highly sought after by collectors who appreciate the masterful



craftsmanship and intricate designs that characterize these timepieces. The allure of owning a Gustav Becker clock goes beyond mere ownership; it's a connection to an era when precision and elegance were at the forefront of clockmaking.

These collectible works of art can range in price from \$500 to \$5,000 and more. Although Gustav Becker only lived until 1885, clocks bore his trademark until 1935. The Jung-hans Company absorbed Becker, Lenzkirch, Hamburg American, etc. into a clock company that continues in business to this day.

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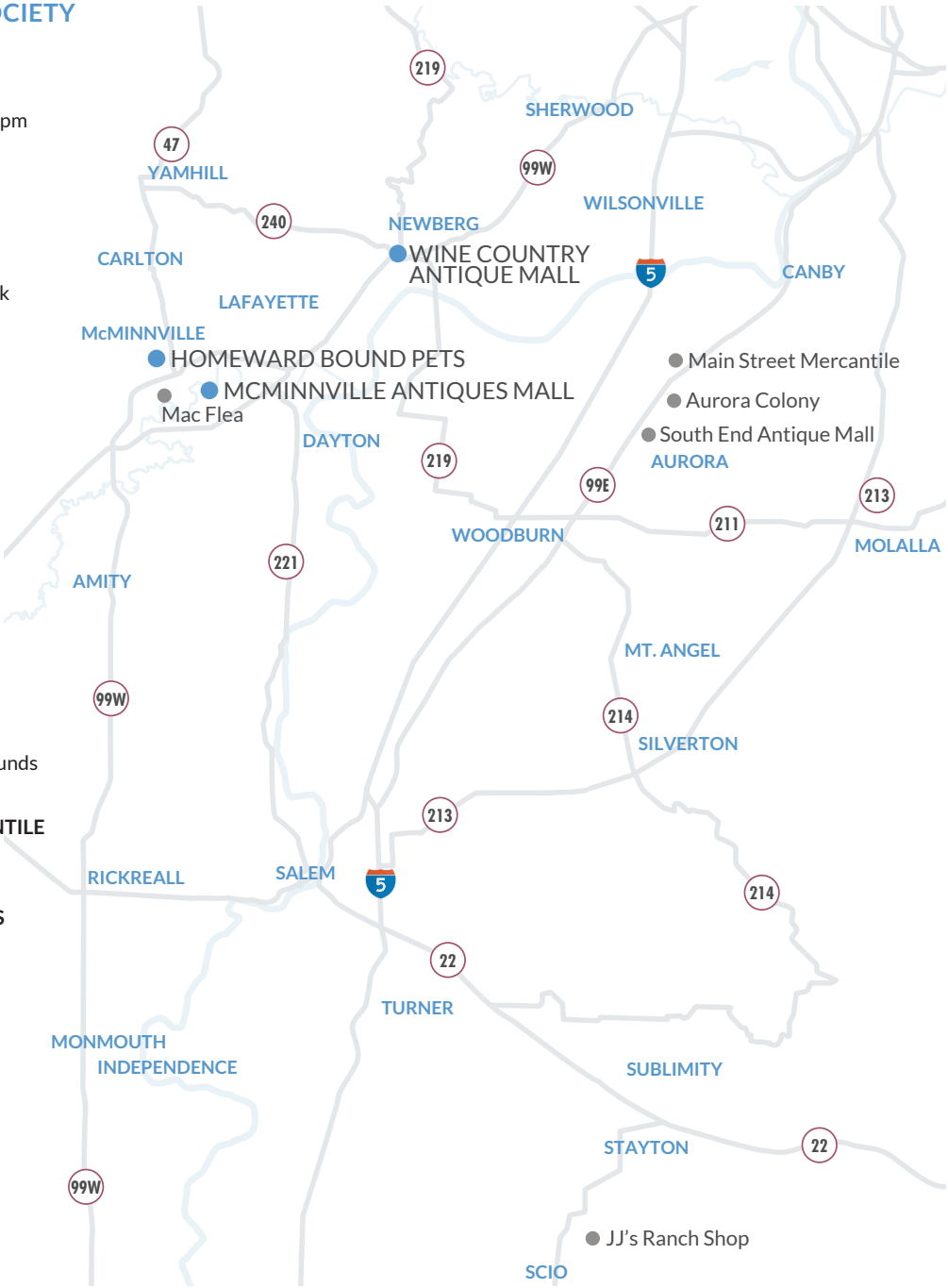
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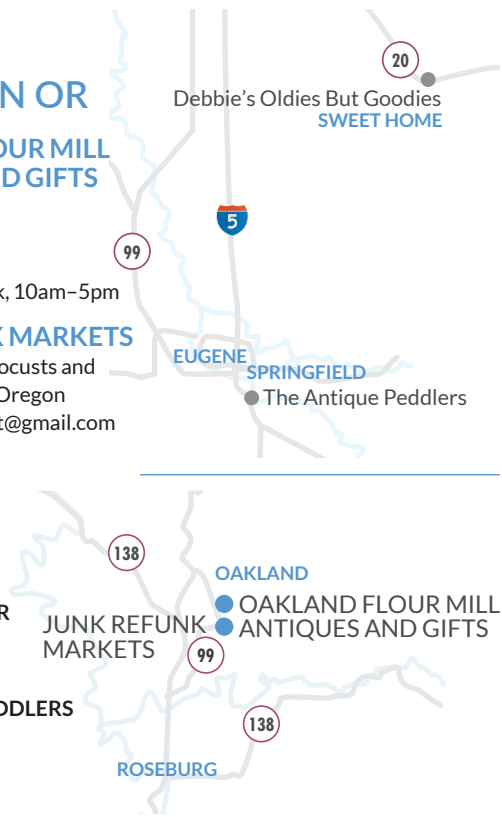
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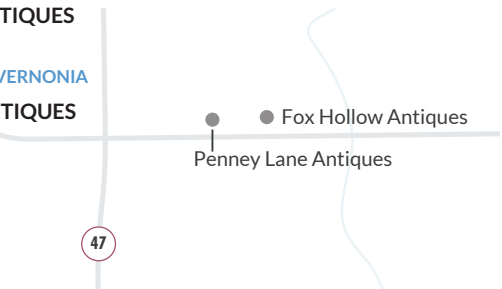
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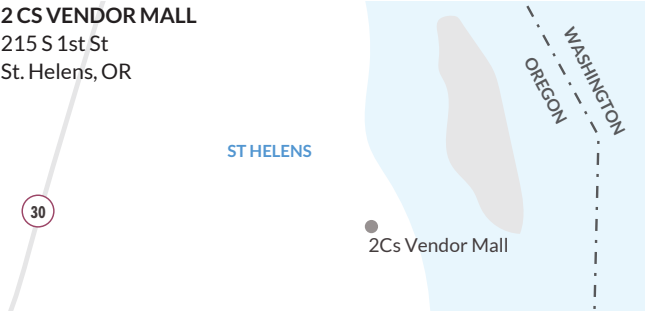
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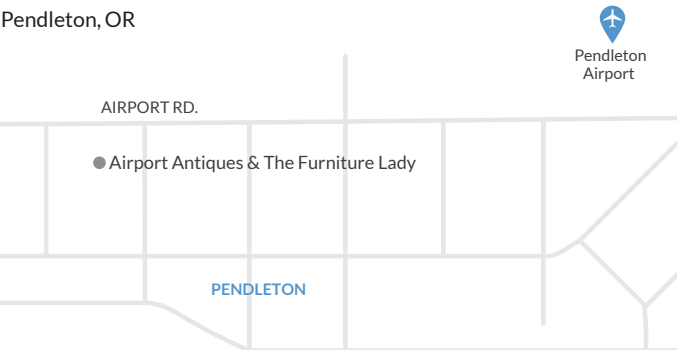
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This and That

A little bit of information on a variety of things



It wasn't until the 18th century that we first saw stylish porcelain wall pocket vases with the arrival of potteries in UK and abroad. You have probably seen pottery vases hanging on kitchen walls. They sometimes look like brightly colored plates or plaques with a built-in opening for hanging. Vintage pockets are intended to hold water for flowers or perhaps ivy. Ceramic Wall Pockets come in a wide range of styles and are perfect for adding both decorative and functional art to your walls.

Although no one knows who made the first Staffordshire dog, the starting point was certainly a dog celebrity: Dash, Queen Victoria's closest childhood companion, a Cavalier King Charles spaniel. By the 1840s, dozens of small potteries in Staffordshire were making spaniels in a variety of sizes. The earliest were simply fashioned from earthenware, press moulded and painted by women or children in lots of different colors - black, russet brown or lustre. The collar and chain are moulded in the figure and usually gilded, and some dogs have glass eyes.



Max-Louis Goebel, a manufacturer of German porcelain, had a motto: "The world is my market." And he spent a lot of time studying the American market, in particular. When his son took over the company in 1929, his challenge was to continue to develop new products and expand the overseas market. He came to the realization that figurines of children had never been portrayed to any great extent in porcelain. The ultimate outcome of this realization was the production of those charming figurines everyone today simply calls "Hummels."



Early glass craftsmen were not able to make mirrors in very big pieces, so large looking glasses were made by joining together several smaller bones. The resulting joined mirror was hung horizontally, usually above a fireplace. This proved to be so effective a design that joined mirrors continued to be used long after mirrors could be made in one long piece. One can usually find these mirrors in many styles, including Chipendale, Georgian and Queen Anne among others.

Shaving mugs became popular in the middle of the 19th century and are divided into three distinct groups - generic, fraternal and occupational. Mugs often were undecorated, hand painted, or had a floral transfer design. In addition to floral stock designs, stock hunting and sporting images also were available. Occasionally, a shaving mug would incorporate a photographic image of the owner into the design. Occupational shaving mugs existed for almost every business, profession, or trade. Both indoor and outdoor trades were pictured. Some mugs displayed the emblem or working tools of the craftsman. The shaving mug owner's name in gold appeared above the occupation scene. Lettering typically was done in an old English style. Mugs featuring obsolete occupations are very desirable.



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A Doll's Eye View

Miniature dolls made for doll houses took many forms



Dolls to be used as inhabitants of doll houses have been made for as long as the houses themselves have been built. Since the first doll houses were elaborate handcrafted miniatures designed for adults, the dolls were elegant miniatures, also.

The commercial production of doll houses began in the early 19th century. Mass production of doll house dolls began at that same time.

The earliest commercially produced dolls for doll houses were peg woodens. These were some of the tiniest jointed dolls ever made. Their heads were round and their hair and eyes were painted black. The women dolls often had a carved comb, almost always yellow, painted in their hair.

Small china head dolls became popular by the late 1850s. They appeared with a variety of bodies; most common was the china head attached by thread or glue to a cloth body. These often had legs of china, too. The majority were women dolls, although a few were men.

The Frozen Charlotte doll was also used in doll houses, usually serving as the baby. The most common ones had molded and painted hair and features. Sometimes they also had molded clothes or baby



bonnets.

Bisque head doll house dolls became popular in the 1860s. Bisque was frequently used with china and one will find a bisque head with china limbs, or the reverse. Sometimes both bisque and china finishes were combined on the head itself.

By late in the century, blondes were preferred to brunettes and most bisque or china dolls had painted blond hair. The number of male dolls also increased. In the 1880s, dolls with mustaches and beards were first introduced

to serve as the father of the doll house family.

Dolls of all bisque made their first appearance in the 1860s. By the 1880s, they could be found in all sizes, beginning as small as 3/4 inches. Most were sold dressed. They were sold dressed. They were produced into World War I, where they came dressed as nurses and soldiers, and in to the 1930s, where they wore the fashions of the period.

Bisque shoulder-head doll house dolls were also produced, beginning in the 1890s. In addition to

the boys, girls, men and women, grandparent dolls were introduced. In fact, some dolls were even made to represent servants. (They were identified by their hair styles.) These all had painted hair and features, and bodies of soft cloth.

Rubber, celluloid and composition came into use after World War I in the making of doll house dolls. However, bisque, china and wood were also continued up to the start of World War II. After that time, the new plastics were used for commercial production of these tiny inhabitants of doll houses.

A Blast from the Past

The Earth Moved

Scotts Mills Earthquake jolts Lafayette Schoolhouse



Northwest antiques received quite a jolt the morning of March 25, 1993. An earthquake measuring just under 6 on the Richter Scale struck just east of Lafayette, literally rolling the town’s 100-dealer antique mall and a collection of smaller antique shops in it’s shockwave.

Fears of widespread damage were high, especially in Lafayette Schoolhouse Antique Mall. The 100-dealer mall houses one of Oregon’s largest

antique displays in a two-story schoolhouse dating from 1910; the age of the building and the heavy emphasis on glassware and pottery among it’s dealers gfave great cause for concern.

Assistant manager Joanne Leggett was first on the scene, having watched the building sway from her home 1 1/2 blocks away. Quickly joined by owner Bonnie Regan and manager Debbie Gill, the trio entered a mall in which every picture fhung askew and many smalls were tossed about indiscriminately.

Yet remarkably, a closer inspection revealed surprisingly little damage. “It was absolutely amazing,” manager Debbie Gill relayed to anxious mall

staff, dealers and customers. “The building just took the shock. It was built to last.” Apparently, so were the vast majority of antiques and collectibles inside; total losses were less than \$1200 retail, according to Mrs. Regan.

Similar stories were reported at the neighboring Rick’s Antique Auditorium and Pack Rat Antiques, whose displays of restored antique furniture were rearranged by the temblor with suprisingly little damage.

The quake was the strongest reported in Oregon in years, resulting in bridge collapses and major structural damage to many buildings.

Originally printed in Old Stuff Summer of 1993

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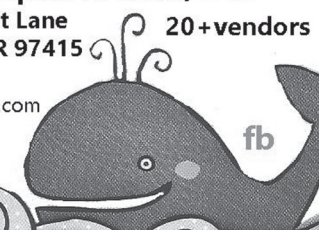
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Green is Gorgeous

What was originally called green glazeware evolved into the majolica of the mid-to-late 1800s. It had been in use in England for many centuries but it took that master potter, Josiah Wedgwood, in 1760, to devise a dependable, smooth, even glaze that could be relied upon to look pleasing when it came out of the kilns.

From this development came the ceramic pieces in naturalistic forms, most notably the cauliflower and pineapple, although apples, pears, cucumbers and quince also appeared on teapots, jugs and other serving pieces.

By the mid-1800s, improved formulations had made green glazeware thicker, with crystallize glaze. Shades of green where numerous - grass green, sea green, bronze green, meadow green and so on.

These green glazes formed the decorative basis of most of the earthenware majolica pieces made in England, beginning about 1860.



Majolica from all over the Map



produced a high quality majolica well into the 20th century. It had a large plant, at one time employing more than 2,000 workers. Other French majolica makers were Avisseau, Barbizet, Pull, Choisy-le-Roi, Onnaing and Gien.

Some excellent majolica was produced in Portugal. Factories there included those of Jose A. Clunha; Mafra and Son; and Rafael Pinheiro, all of Caldas da Rainha. This town has a long history as a pottery center and is still producing majolica ware today.

In Italy, Ulisse Cantagalli produced majolica from 1878 until 1901. Italian-ware took most of its design inspiration from the Italian Renaissance.

The dominant majolica manufacturer in Germany was Villeroy and Boch. It produced huge quantities between 1860 and the early 1900s.

In Czechoslovakia, Wilhelm Schiller and Sons, which was founded in 1829, began making majolica when it became popular, until its closure in 1895.

The Arabia pottery in Finland produced large functional pieces of majolica from 1874 to 1930. Arabia was a subsidiary of the Rorstrand Potter in Sweden.

Many of the European firms used

established English designs. Others referred to their own heritage for inspiration. In France, especially, the work of Palissy (who stressed naturalism in his ceramic designs) in the 1500s served as a model. However since he had also served as the model for many of the early English designs, this didn't create a big variation in style.

Majolica production began to fade in England in the 1870s when the European potteries started exporting a great quantity of inexpensive novelty items in majolica to England and America.

Collectors of majolica should be aware that, in addition to what was produced in England and America, there were also numerous manufacturers of the ware in several European countries.

One of the most important European manufacturers was Sarreguemines, which started out as a French company. This company tended to follow English designs, especially in its early years, and

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